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LITERATURE

A Ride to Khiva; Travels and Adventures in Central Asia. By Fred. Burnaby. (Cassell, Petter & Galpin.)

The author of 'A Ride to Khiva' seems to be exceptionally endowed with those qualities which all Englishmen admire and secretly regard as the peculiar heritage of the race; energy, decision, endurance, self-command, and command of others. He was also exceptionally qualified for this particular journey by his acquaintance with two important languages far too little studied by Englishmen, viz, Russian and Arabic, and he is, besides, as much at home on a camel, in a canoe, a sledge, or a balloon, as in a railway carriage or a steamer. He delights in grappling with a difficulty as such, and his determination to penetrate Central Asia was much stimulated by the assurance that it was "impossible." It may be added that though emphatically a man of action, he seems to handle the pen without difficulty. His style is easy and natural, never flags, and goes straight to the point.

He does not tell us anything that is actually new about the country, for he traversed it hastily, and at the most inclement season, and the most unfavourable for observation; his remarks on what he saw and heard are, nevertheless, of much interest. He mixed freely with all classes; and although, while beyond the limits of Russia proper, he was usually dependent on a Tatar interpreter, he was able, while in Khiva, to converse directly in Arabic with various Mullahs who had learned the language when on pilgrimage to Mecca. In fact, the numerous and characteristic conversations which he reports, and his clear, if sometimes necessarily rapid deductions, form the most important part of the book, and will be read with especial interest at the present moment, from their bearing not only on the Russian character, but on the true nature of Russian rule over subject nations.

Capt. Burnaby found the difficulties of entering Central Asia, *via* Russia, fully as great as they had been represented; and, between fair words and letters of introduction, professions of ignorance of the route and limited permission to advance, he might well have been puzzled. At more than one station the passage of foreigners was absolutely prohibited, and he only got through by his

knowledge of the language, or the inability of inspectors to read his passport. On arriving at Kazala, near the mouth of the Syr Daria, he was allowed by the Commandant to proceed, it being assumed that he would go at once to the Fort of Petro-Alexandrovsk, near the river Oxus, in the territory lately acquired from Khiva. Had he done so, he would never have reached the capital; but, suspecting this, he made a *détour*, crossed the Oxus into the Khanate, and found his way to the capital, where he obtained an audience of the Sovereign. He had intended to proceed thence to Bokhara, but his further progress was arrested by a message from the Russian authorities, "inviting" him to recross the river and go to Petro-Alexandrovsk, where a telegram awaited him!

"I was greatly surprised to find that any one took so much interest in me as to despatch a telegram so many thousand miles, and put himself to the expense of having the message forwarded from Tashkend, where the telegraph ends, to Khiva, a distance of 900 miles, by couriers, with relays of horses. It must have cost a large sum of money sending that telegram, and I began to be a little alarmed, thinking that perhaps I should be asked to pay for it."

The telegram proved to be from H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, and ordered the traveller's immediate return to England. He is, of course, reticent as to how this mandate had been obtained; but thenceforward he was merely a prisoner on parole, and was obliged to return by the same route direct to St. Petersburg. The Commandant at the Fort, though feeling he had been outwitted, affected indifference, and wondered why Major Wood, who had been his guest the year before, had never had the curiosity to go to Khiva. In our notice of Major Wood's work on Lake Aral, we speculated on the curious circumstance that even the name of Khiva does not occur in his pages. This difficulty is now cleared up, for Major Wood has informed our author that he frequently asked permission of the aforesaid commandant, Col. Ivanoff, to visit the town, and was told there were imperative orders against it! The question naturally arises, why all this Chinese exclusiveness? and a sufficient reply, according to Capt. Burnaby, is to be found in a reluctance on the part of Russia to allow the real character of her government of these countries to be known, as injurious to her reputation as a "civilized" and "Christian" power, and in the desire to conceal from England the extent of her resources, and possible movements in the direction of India. Capt. Burnaby's observations and inquiries all tend to support the heavy indictment lately brought from various quarters, and notably from Mr. Schuyler's careful and dispassionate report, against the Russian Government of Central Asia, for maladministration, bad faith, corruption, and cruelty. Horrible immorality, we are told, such as can only be alluded to in a Latin footnote, prevails. Religion and education are neglected, while episodes of blood-shedding, such as have of late been strenuously denied, have not been uncommon.

The appearance of the town, and the manners of the people of Khiva, indicate a higher state of culture than is popularly supposed to exist there. The Russians have steadily, to cover their own ends, Capt. Burnaby tells us, represented the Khivans as a horde of blood-thirsty robbers, at whose subjugation all right-

minded people should rejoice. M. Vambéry, too, who in the pursuit of philology associated himself with the dirtiest and most bigoted classes, painted the whole people in the same colours. Capt. Burnaby, however, met with nothing but civility from the people. Oriental hospitality is so far modified in the Khanate that, while it is the custom for a traveller to ride up to any house and demand hospitality, it is also expected that he should pay fairly for it in the morning. In the capital, however, where Capt. Burnaby was lodged and handsomely entertained by one of the chief men of the place, he endeavoured, on leaving, to press some present on his host; but

"the Khivan at once declined, saying that I was the Khan's guest, and that His Majesty would be very angry if he were to learn that I had tried to requite his hospitality by giving a present to his servant. Indeed, when I made it a personal matter, my attempt was equally fruitless, and I left the city slightly pained at not being able to leave behind some token or other to show how much I appreciated his kindness during my stay at Khiva."

The Khan, too, who, according to Capt. Burnaby's Russian friends, was to have put out his eyes, and thrown him into prison, if he ventured within his grasp, treated him with the greatest courtesy. This once dreaded Sovereign, he tells us, appears to be about twenty-eight years of age, with a pleasant genial smile, and a gracious manner, but described by the Spanish expression "*muy simpático*."

"He expressed his annoyance," our author says, "that I had to leave his capital so suddenly. He then remarked, 'You will come back again, I trust; and pray tell all Englishmen whom you meet that I have heard from the envoy I sent to India of the greatness of their nation, and only hope that before long I may see some of them in my capital.' He was very kind in his manner, and shook hands warmly when I took my leave; the impression being left on my mind that the Khan of Khiva is the least bigoted of all the Mussulmans whose acquaintance I have made in the course of my travels, and that the stories of his cruelties to Russian prisoners, previous to the capture of his city, are pure inventions, which have been disseminated by the Russian press in order to try and justify the annexation of his territory."

Capt. Burnaby thinks that most of the recent aggressive movements of Russia have been due to the restless spirit of officers pining for active service and distinction, and were not approved of at St. Petersburg, although they seem to have been usually condoned in such a manner as not to discourage a repetition. The severity of the winter climate in the Steppes can only be surpassed in the Arctic Regions, while the appliances for withstanding it are fewer, and Russia may well be proud of the heroic endurance shown by her troops in conquering such a country, but the exertions ever needed to keep their communication open must be great. According to Russian statements, the Central Asian provinces are governed at an annual loss of 627,000*l.*, and though their figures usually are not dependable, the amount is probably not overstated.

On the question of a collision with England, whatever may be the views of the Government, there can be no doubt, according to Capt. Burnaby, about those of the army. The officers with whom he associated all looked on war with England in Asia as only a question of time, while the Cossack's day-dreams are of the plunder of India. Every man in Central Asia

is a politician, and the never-failing subject of conversation is the chance of war between Russia and England. A Khivan merchant, with whom our traveller was staying, who had been in Tashkend and learned Russian, said that

"war was looked upon in Tashkend as certain soon to happen, the Russian inhabitants of that city talking about India as a mine of wealth, from which they would be able to replenish their empty purses. 'How will they march to India?' I inquired. 'There are high mountains that block the way, and, besides, if they were to come, how do you know that we should let them get back again?'—'There are many roads,' he answered. 'Merchants go from Bokhara to Cabul in sixteen days in the summer months; then there is the road through Merve and Herat, which was stopped by the Turkomans, but which the Russians are now going to open, and, at the same time, to build a fort at Merve. You have fine soldiers in India, but we are told the natives do not like you, and will look on the Russians as deliverers.'—'How do you like the Russians?' I inquired.—'Pretty well; they buy my goods when I am at Tashkend, and leave alone small people like myself. If I were rich, it would be another matter, but then I could bribe. Money will go a long way with the colonels, and even the generals do not always keep their palms shut.'—'Were you in Khiva when the country was taken?' I asked.—'No; I was then at Tashkend, and we thought the Russians never would get there. It was fearful,' he added; 'so much bloodshed; so many friends killed; women and children too; such cruelties; war is a dreadful thing.'—'Perhaps we shall meet some time or other in India,' I remarked, 'and then I will return your hospitality.'—'That is to say, if the Russians will let you,' replied the man; 'but when they are in Hindustan there will not be much left for yourselves, or the natives either, for the matter of that; the officers here know how to squeeze money out of a stone.'"

Next to politics horses and women are the chief staples of conversation. Capt. Burnaby was asked by his Turkoman guide which an Englishman loves best, his horse or his wife; but our author answered diplomatically, "That depends on the woman." This Turkoman had a terrible appetite, and made serious inroads on the slender store of provisions on the road across the Steppes.—

"Occasionally he would bury his head in the soup vessel, and suck up the half-tepid liquor, much to the indignation of Nazar and the guide, the former remarking that this way of eating was not fair, at the same time offering the Turkoman a spoon. This the latter gratefully declined, and made my follower still more angry by saying that the soup tasted better if eaten in his manner."

The author gives, in an Appendix, a number of important routes. These are of various value; some of them consist of bare names and distances, unchecked by any description of the nature of the country traversed. It would have been desirable, also, to distinguish those founded on actual survey from those taken down, as some of these must have been, only from native reports. Still these, as well as various important papers which he reprints, and two good maps, give additional value to the book, which, besides being a lively, natural, and amusing record of a difficult adventure, should be perused by all who are interested in Russian progress in the East. Whatever we may think of the author's suggestions, it may be admitted that the plainness and directness of his language, is in refreshing contrast to the hollow diplomatic civilities which have lately formed so large a part of our reading on this subject.

A Glossary of Liturgical and Ecclesiastical Terms. Compiled and Arranged by the Rev. F. G. Lee. (Quaritch.)

It is scarcely possible to find any dictionary, cyclopædia, or glossary which does not supply some amount of information, and the relative value of each is to be judged by the supply. The volume now before us cannot be ranked highly. The information which it offers is generally of a very common kind, and might readily be found in other books of the same sort already existing. Nor is it easy to discover upon what plan the compiler has worked. There are a good many words which one would only expect to find in a dictionary of architecture, such as gable, boss, bracket, gargoyle, perpendicular, jamb, window, &c.; but, on the other hand, we do not find joist, dripstone, pier, or balustrade, and scores of similar words which might equally have been included. A great number of Greek words and terms are also in this glossary, sometimes in Greek letters, sometimes in English; and very frequently a student or reader would be more likely to refer to a Greek lexicon.

The same absence of any well-considered plan is equally to be observed in other classes; such, for example, as instruments of music and sects. We can find Solifidians, Patripassians, Supralapsarians, and Origenists; but we have no mention of Gnostics, or Manicheans, or Arians, or Calvinists, or Quakers. So, again, we have the lyre, the rote, and the shawm explained; but not the sackbut, dulcimer, or cymbal. Oddly enough, the compiler includes tymbal, but he does not seem to have ever heard of a timbrel. So, in a like careless kind of way,—and, in this instance, the why and wherefore of the entry is unintelligible,—we have "Ramadan," the Mohammedan fast, but not a word about the Koran or a mosque.

That a few only of the more important terms in each class should be explained, and that the limits of his book required the omission of others less important, is certainly not an answer to our objection. For the glossary is full of words which really cannot for a moment be supposed to require explanation; such as "Burial-service," which we are told is "the religious service used at burials," a definition that resembles the famous explanation by Dr. Blomfield in the House of Lords, that an archdeacon is a man who performs archidiaconal functions. Again, "Collegian, the inmate of a college," and "Collegiate, pertaining to a college"; and "Jurist, a person versed in the science of law"; and "Kneeler, one who kneels"; and "Refreshment, that which gives strength, as food"; and "Sermon, a discourse by a cleric, &c., &c." A person who requires a glossary to explain to him such common words as these had better begin first to learn his alphabet.

The fact is that, as Dr. Lee tells us in his Preface, "the volume was commenced many years ago, by the gathering together of notes and memoranda in the course of reading." In short, it is a mere common-place book, of small use to any but the compiler himself. Dr. Lee claims to have provided, "simply for his own instruction, a vast amount of information"; and as year after year went by, "very considerable additions were made." It may be true; but when all this "vast information" had

been gathered together, was it worth publishing to the whole world in so miserably an incomplete and unformed a state? In order to put confidence in his book, it is not sufficient that Dr. Lee's readers should be furnished with a long list of more than two hundred writers whose works have been "consulted," not even though they run from the 'Acta Sanctorum' in fifty folio volumes, and the works of St. Basil, and the collections of Councils, down to an account of Easter ceremonies at Rome or the remains of Alexander Knox. The true test of the good result of labour spent upon so extensive a catalogue would be carefulness of arrangement and accuracy of explanation. We cannot discover either of these proofs in the book which we are reviewing.

Two or three examples will show the incompleteness of this 'Glossary.' We find the words "Oath" and "Corporal"; but nothing is said of "corporal oath," or what it meant. Two entries are given for Vicarage, "Vicarage—see Vicarage House," which immediately follows, and we learn, to our surprise, that it is "the official residence for the vicar of a parish." But we are left utterly in the dark as to the true meaning of a "rectory" or rectorial house, and we hope that Mr. Quaritch will kindly impress on Dr. Lee the absolute necessity of including so strange a word in any succeeding attempt at a glossary. Once more, we are informed that the phrase "violent hands" is in one of the rubrics of the Prayer-Book, but neither mention nor interpretation is made of "the secular arm."

We have already observed upon some architectural and musical words, seemingly included without reason. Take another class. Dr. Lee mentions "Lort Monday," and "Chaste-week," and "Palm Sunday," and "Pulver Wednesday"; but we look in vain for Cycle or Paschal Cycle, or Agas Day, or All-hallowance, or Mind Day, or Mothering Sunday, and a great number of others.

We are undeniably amazed that Dr. Lee has forgotten "Lord Mayor's Day," because he thinks "Tipstaff, an officer of the Court of Queen's Bench," and "Most worshipful, a customary title given to certain mayors in England," are proper subjects for explanation in a liturgical glossary.

Again, we have "Nominalists," but not realists; "Scholastic doctors," but not schoolmen; "Soul-cake," but not arval cake; "Kalendar," but not kalends; "Habit," but not frock; "Rochet" for a bishop, but not for a parish clerk; "Rood," "Rood-doors," and "Rood-chains," but not rood days; "Pulpit," but not pulpitarium; "Sermon," but not homily; "Digamy," but not bigamy; and so on. We have already spoken of other omissions, and we could fill a column without trouble, but can find room only for a few; such as abbot of misrule; utas; church ales; wassail-bowl, and wassail-bread in monasteries; valentines; dormer; berial, or burial, for a sepulchre; oblator; citharist; &c., &c.

Nor are we even able to say that the interpretations which Dr. Lee gives are, upon the whole, as free from errors as a glossary can fairly pretend to be. We will take a few words in their alphabetical order:—Abbots, the reader is told, "carried the pastoral staff with the crook turned inwards," although, a few pages afterwards, there is positively a woodcut from an abbot's tomb which proves the

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incorrectness of such a rule. Alien priories are not sufficiently distinguished simply by saying that they were "extra-diocesan" and "offshoots of foreign religious houses." We are informed that, "in recent times, a figure of Jesus Christ has been sometimes affixed to the altar-cross." If this means in Protestant churches, we must venture to deny it, unless it has been done surreptitiously; if in Roman Catholic churches, "sometimes" should be understood as "always" or without exception. "The formal application of water, performed as a sacramental act," does not constitute baptism: (we may remark that, although an inadequate explanation of the term "Form," with reference to a sacrament, is offered, the equally important word "matter" is evaded or forgotten altogether). "Benefit of clergy" is insufficiently explained, because it included more than the mere right of exemption from secular jurisdiction. Candlemas is so called, not because "many candles are used and lighted" on that day, but because they are blessed. We never heard of a "card-cloth," but a "care-cloth" was a sort of canopy used anciently at the marriage service. The "breviary office" is not, in the way of distinction, a "choir office." Under "Collation," its meaning with reference to mediæval readings should have been noticed. A "collectarium" was not a "coucher." The ecclesiastical "comb" was one of the things which appear to have been ordered in the middle ages for the ceremonial use of bishops only, and therefore it misleads to say broadly that "each cleric had his own." The term "deadland" is simply translated, not explained; "dom," again, means something besides a cathedral; and "dominicals" in the plural is forgotten altogether. "Enchiridion" was not a book limited to "the Oriental Church." The "Gospel" from the beginning of St. John is not "always read at the conclusion of the Latin Mass." (We are not disposed to deny that a "goat" is "a well-known ruminating animal with long hair and horns," but we scarcely think the interpretation worth the trouble.) A "lay sister" is not distinguished by "not having bound herself for life to observe the evangelical counsels," because she does so bind herself. The "Liber Festivalis" was a book well known long before "the reign of Henry viij.," and, so far from being "little used," was in constant and general use in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The "Manual" was not so called from being portable. A "Votive mass" is wrongly explained. We find "Postil," "Postilla," and "Postiller": the first two are but the same word, and the third might well have been left out; but neither of the three articles explains the origin of the word. "Right honourable" is not "a title given to bishops." The "Star-Chamber" did not derive its name, although vulgarly it is so believed, from its painted roof. "Uncial," if perhaps not wrongly, is insufficiently explained.

A glossary of ecclesiastical terms would naturally show the religious bias of the author, and would, therefore, involve certain peculiar difficulties. Dr. Lee is, we believe, well known as a leader in the ritualistic or extreme High-Church party; but we are certainly startled by more than one statement advanced as facts, or as opinions approved of in the Established Church. Dr. Lee has, of course,

carefully taken on himself alone all responsibility for such statements; but the book is, nevertheless, dedicated *by permission* to the Bishop of Winchester. It comes before the world, therefore, with some kind of official sanction.

What must we think, then, of the following examples? Under "Accidents" we are told that what "is received of the faithful in the Sacrament of the Altar is the Body and Blood of Christ, the bread and wine being held by theologians to be the accidents." Eucharistic adoration is interpreted to be "the adoration of our Lord, present in the Eucharist under the species of bread and wine." Any doubt which might exist as to Dr. Lee's meaning in these places is removed by his explanation, first, of "Transubstantiation: in Western theology [including, of course, Anglican] the change—by which the substance of the bread and wine becomes the Body and Blood of our Lord"; and, secondly, of "Species: in Eucharistic theology, the outward and visible part in the Sacrament of the Altar."

Under "Hades," the existence of purgatory is laid down as "the place to which all go who require to be cleansed and prepared for the Beatific Vision." Mass for the dead is said to be "a mass for the faithful who have departed in the fear of God, and now rest in the sleep of peace." Whatever truth there may be in this, it is, at any rate, not Roman Catholic doctrine.

Dr. Lee drives his coach and four with great courage, as we have seen, through the twenty-eighth of the Thirty-nine Articles on the question of transubstantiation; so with equal readiness through the twenty-fifth, which declares that penance is not a "sacrament of the Gospel." For, what are we now told? "Penance: the Sacrament of Penance is a sacrament instituted by Christ, in which . . . actual sins are remitted." But it is scarcely worth while to cite more instances: except, as connected with purgatory and penance, the very clear assertion under the head of "Plenary indulgence," that "by temporal, as distinguished from eternal, punishment is meant punishment which is due for sin, and which is to be undergone *either in this world or in the next*." We can scarcely be wrong in suggesting to the Bishop of Winchester the immediate necessity for a new and corrected edition of his work upon the Thirty-nine Articles.

But, as some may say that the doctrine of the Established Church is so loose and misty that anybody may assert or deny anything and everything, let us have an example from practice.

If any one thing is certain and positively clear in the rubrics of the Common Prayer Book, it is this,—namely, that at the Communion every portion of the consecrated bread and wine is to be consumed, so that not a particle may be left after the conclusion of the service. The reason for this is obvious enough: it was felt at the Reformation to be not only the strongest possible protest against that doctrine of transubstantiation, but the most certain protection against any mistake about the matter. Yet in this glossary we are taught—in a book, be it remembered, published under some kind of *imprimatur* from the Bishop of Winchester—that "in the chapels of religious houses our bishops appear to have allowed

Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament for *purposes of worship*." (The italics are our own.) We are not prepared to deny that to some extent this is true: such a practice has been long spoken of, in a kind of confidential way, about Dr. Pusey's convent at Oxford: but we are scarcely prepared for so public an avowal of it by a writer in the position of Dr. Lee. Whatever our opinion may be of his general accuracy and learning, we cannot suppose him to have made so grave an assertion without having ample proof to fall back upon.

Étude sur la République des États-Unis d'Amérique. Par le Marquis de Talleyrand-Périgord, Attaché à la Commission Française de l'Exposition de Philadelphie. (New York, Hurd & Houghton.)

MR. TENNYSON charged "indolent reviewers" with not giving adequate attention to the works upon which they passed judgment. What would he have said, however, of a critic who condemned a book which he had not even seen? Would he admit that, to have read a review of it in the *New York Herald* was a sufficient qualification for reviewing it in turn? This is what has occurred in the case of the Marquis de Talleyrand-Périgord's work on the United States. The leading journal, being indebted for a knowledge of it to an article in the *New York Herald*, has passed an unfavourable judgment upon the book and its author, while a weekly contemporary has considered the information obtained from the same sources sufficient for the purpose of animadversion. This is neither fair criticism nor ordinary fair play. The unfairness is not more conspicuous than the blundering. Having read the book in question, we cannot deny that its author has made several mistakes; but we have failed to detect therein the errors with which, on second-hand evidence, he has been credited in the articles referred to.

The work, in one respect, is a curiosity. It has been printed at the Riverside Press, Cambridge, being, perhaps, one of the first original works in the French tongue printed in Massachusetts; it is published by a New York firm, and it is quite as unusual for French books to be published in New York as for them to be printed in New England. We do not understand the significance of the words on the reverse of the title-page, "Copyright, 1876, by Hurd & Houghton." An alien cannot obtain copyright in the United States, and, what he is unable to do, a publisher is debarred from doing on his behalf. Were not this the case, then an alien author could dispose of his work to a United States publisher, who would pay him a price in consideration of being able to secure copyright in it, and thus the existing law would not operate to the author's detriment. It is to be feared, however, that the publishers of this book have no other protection against its being reprinted than the circumstance that another firm may think that it would not pay to do so—a measure of protection which may prove quite sufficient. The illiberality of the United States in denying copyright to an alien author would have supplied the Marquis de Talleyrand-Périgord with a theme upon which he might have descanted more effectively than he has done upon others; but as French authors do not suffer from this hardship to the same extent

as their English brethren, it seems comparatively unimportant in their eyes.

Two serious mistakes have been committed by the writers who trusted to the *New York Herald* for their facts about this book: the one is that the author paid a flying visit to the United States; the other is, that his desire is to furnish a wholesale indictment against that country's institutions. The truth is that the author resided in the country three years; he possesses a mastery over the English tongue such as few of his countrymen acquire, and he has had ample time and opportunity for making himself thoroughly acquainted with the country and the people. The reader need peruse but a few pages of what the Marquis has written to learn that he is writing not out of hostility to the United States, but by way of warning to France. Indeed, the error which renders his book less attractive than it would otherwise have been, is that he thinks too much about France and too little about his subject. He desires that the Republican form of government should be firmly established in his own country, and he is afraid lest an unmeasured and unenlightened admiration for that variety now prevailing in the United States should lead to the adoption of a system which he considers far less suitable than that which was established by Washington and his colleagues. His design is to exhibit the changes which have occurred in the government of the United States, and this he does by sketching the history of the country and contrasting the present with the past. The observations to which attention has been exclusively directed are contained in but one out of the nine chapters in the volume; his conclusions have been condemned without his premisses having been examined.

The Marquis de Talleyrand-Périgord cannot feel surprise at the adverse criticism with which he has met in the United States. He knows, as he says in the "Prologue" to his work, that a profound admiration for his country and himself is the distinctive trait of the United States citizen. The latter has been taught from infancy to believe that he is a paragon among men, and that his country is pre-eminent among the nations of the world; and his education is generally too superficial to enable him to correct this opinion by careful study and comparison. The Marquis further observes that the United States citizen does not like criticism applied to himself, his country, his government, his customs, and his conduct. He wishes others to agree with him in thinking that all of them are perfect. By opening an International Exhibition at Philadelphia, however, the United States appear to challenge criticism; hence it is that the Marquis considers himself justified in passing judgment upon the country as a whole at a period when its position among the nations is a natural subject of inquiry, and its achievements during the century it has existed become fair topics for comment.

A large part of this work is filled with a sketch of the settlement of the American continent. The particulars there given may be serviceable to French readers; but they must be perfectly familiar to the English reader who is moderately well acquainted with modern history. Several mistakes are made as to matters of fact. The Puritans are styled "disciples of Calvin"; but they did not own

him as their master in the main subject of his teaching—that relating to the form of church-government. Nothing was more obnoxious to the Puritan founders of New England than the Presbyterian or Calvinistic Church; they preferred the Congregational form, and for a long time maintained it to the exclusion of all others. The fable about Cromwell and Hampden being hindered from embarking for America is repeated by the Marquis as if it had some foundation. He adds: "King James never supposed that this order would cost him his crown and his head." Thus, to the mistake of fancying that such an order was given at all, is added the further one that it was given by James, who certainly died in his bed. He writes about William Penn as the founder of the religion professed by the Quakers, whereas he ought to have known that Penn was merely a convert to doctrines first enunciated by George Fox when Penn was in his cradle. Cromwell is wrongly charged with having introduced religious intolerance into the colony of Maryland; his bigoted Parliament is said to have ordered that the Quakers and Roman Catholics in that colony should be deprived of the protection of the law. What actually happened was that, when the Maryland Assembly disfranchised the Roman Catholics, Cromwell disapproved of this, and commanded the Commissioners who had been sent from England "not to busy themselves about religion, but to settle the civil government." The Marquis divides the colonies into three categories: those in the first were self-founded; those in the second were founded with the assent or by order of the Crown; those in the third were acquired by conquest. In truth, the distinction which is drawn between Massachusetts and Carolina or Georgia is untenable. The land of the former was held to belong to the king by right of discovery, as well as the land of the latter, and all which were settled by this country, save New Plymouth, had a royal charter. As the distinction did not exist, a good deal of argument based upon such a distinction ceases to have any value. Most of the mistakes we have pointed out are probably due to the author having been misled by untrustworthy authorities, or having misinterpreted their statements. But here is one which baffles all explanation:—"When the House of Commons was founded, the right of taking part in the legislative meetings of England was conferred upon the American colonies, these meetings being based upon the notion that the whole nation took part in the Great Council through the intermediary of representatives chosen by and out of it." The House of Commons had met for a good many years before an American colony existed, and at no time was such a colony represented in Parliament. What is said about the Navigation Acts is hardly less extraordinary than the foregoing perversion of history. During the Commonwealth, an Act is said to have been passed forbidding all the nations of the earth to traffic with the American plantations: the indignation of the colonies at being compelled to trade with England only, is said to have been so great that Parliament repealed the Act. Now Mr. Bancroft, never too ready to speak tenderly about any piece of English legislation, says "the Navigation Act of the Commonwealth had not been designed to trammel the commerce

of the colonies"; furthermore, the Act was not repealed during the colonial days. The Marquis goes on to state how Charles the Second put the law into operation again, and how he caused another to be passed, which is known as the famous "Navigation Act." This was not the first of its name or kind; and though its action undoubtedly hindered freedom of trade in the colonies, yet its design was to destroy the commerce of the Dutch—a design which happily failed, for the Dutch continued to thrive, and English commerce thrived also, notwithstanding the obstacles caused by the legislation which was intended to foster it. The last mistake we shall notice relates to the occurrences in the colonies concerning the Stamp Act. It is said that the Legislative Assemblies of Virginia and Massachusetts expressed their dissatisfaction in petitions to the Crown and the "two Parliaments" of England. "They instructed their representatives in these Parliaments to the effect that every effort was to be used by them to resist the ambitious projects of the British legislature." Though trifling in itself, yet it is a thing worthy of note that the English Parliament is a single body, divided into two parts or Houses; and that to speak of the two Houses as two Parliaments is to say what is not only inaccurate, but absurd. Moreover, these colonial legislatures had no representatives in either House of Parliament to whom they could send instructions. The colonies had agents in the mother-country, and Edmund Burke, the agent for the province of New York, was also a Member of Parliament, yet he could not be called the Parliamentary representative of the provinces. The author has probably supposed these agents to be necessarily Members of Parliament; hence his blunder.

Notwithstanding the grossness of some of the mistakes which have just been pointed out, it must in justice be added that the historical sketch of the rise of the colonies contains many shrewd and perfectly just observations, and would be really instructive to those ignorant of the subject were it carefully revised and amended. The impression made upon the author by an examination of the course formerly pursued by this country, and of the colonial policy which is now practised, is, we think, entirely correct. He holds that, had the present policy been adopted at an earlier day, had this country treated her American colonies as she has treated those which are firmly attached to her, she would still be mistress of those which have separated themselves from the Empire. He leads it to be inferred that the colonies would have been the chief gainers had the mother-country acted with greater sense. The ninth and concluding chapter is a parallel between the United States of 1776 and of 1876. This is the only part of the volume to which attention has hitherto been directed. Here, however, there are fewer mistakes than elsewhere; and what mistakes there may be are errors of opinion, and not of fact. The Marquis de Talleyrand-Périgord feels an admiration for Washington, Hamilton, and Marshall which he cannot extend to their successors. He thinks that the Government was far better at the beginning of the nation's career than it is after a century has passed away. There is nothing so startling in his

observations, or so terrible in his strictures, as has been asserted by those who have never read his book. In the number of the *North American Review* for last January, an article on "Politics in the United States, from 1776 to 1876," contains as gloomy a picture of the present as that drawn by the Marquis. Mr. Sumner, the writer of the article, clearly points out how the nation has suffered the class called politicians to usurp the place supposed to be filled by the people. He does not despair of a remedy, whereas the French author thinks that no remedy is possible. Mr. Sumner writes:—"Party methods have certainly become worse and worse. The public service has certainly deteriorated; but I should judge that the political will of the nation was never purer than it is to-day." That this national will must yet prevail is a matter of certainty, despite appearances which would suggest another conclusion. Corruption in high places is one of the signs of the times, but it is not so unusual a portent as the author supposes. A member of the Cabinet of Washington, in the age which he regards as the golden one of the Republic, had to resign owing to a charge of malversation. The lack of great men in literature, science, and art in the United States is also a symptom which seems to him most serious. He says:—"There are no men of letters, no public men, no statesmen, no works of art, or, at least, very few, to attest the existence of a civilized nation." These words have irritated the *New York Herald*, and have moved it to give a list of names which it considers great, and to allege that, if Mr. Longfellow be not accepted as an unrivalled poet, it is certain "Europe has produced no great poet within the last half-century." Europe may not concur with the *New York Herald* in this. It is noteworthy that Abbé Raynal, who wrote ninety years ago, made a complaint resembling that of the Marquis de Talleyrand-Périgord. He then said, "America has not yet produced a good poet, a skilful mathematician, a man of genius in a single art or a single science." Jefferson thought it a sufficient reply to this to maintain that a great poet ought not to be looked for till America was as old as Greece, when Homer appeared,—as old as Rome, when Virgil wrote,—as old as France, when Racine and Voltaire produced what he considered to be excellent poetry,—as old as England, when Shakspeare wrote his plays, and Milton his epic. The reply of Jefferson is quite as sensible and conclusive as that of the *New York Herald*. After all, these are minor considerations. There are countries which merit our respect, even though they are not the favoured homes of art and science. The United States may be better as a whole than the Marquis has painted it, even though his picture be truthful in its outline. If the mistakes we have pointed out were corrected, the book would then deserve higher praise than can be accorded to it now; it would repay diligent perusal on the part of a sober minded citizen of the United States, and would convey to a French reader a number of hints which ought to help him in founding a rational and stable Republic in France.

Old New Zealand, a Tale of the Good Old Times; and a History of the War in the North against the Chief Heke, in the Year 1845, told by an Old Chief of the Ngapuhi Tribe. By a Pakeha Maori. With an Introduction by the Earl of Pembroke. (Bentley & Son.)

A SILLY little Preface of twelve pages is the whole of Lord Pembroke's contribution to this work, but its flippancy cannot spoil the pleasure with which we receive from Messrs. Bentley a reprint of the best book ever written about a savage race. It is many years since the "Foreign-Native" (Pakeha Maori) published his volume, and a generation has sprung up to which it is unknown. To all who have never read 'Old New Zealand' we commend it, and even those who years ago have laughed over its pages will welcome it again with delight.

It is not only that the Pakeha Maori's book is one of the most mirth making that we know:—that is but half its merit. 'Old New Zealand' contains the best picture of a state of society and of a people which both have all but passed away, and which will soon be gone. It is but once in several years that a first-class war-dance, such as is here so vividly described, is to be seen, and each time now that one occurs the performance becomes more theatrical and artificial, and less terrible in its reality and mimicry of bloody war. *Muru*, here explained at length, is never now exacted except in the remotest districts of the interior, and the better-known *tapu* has all but disappeared. An Englishman lately wrote an interesting pamphlet on the difficulties which stand in the way of a foreigner purchasing land in France, but they are slight indeed in comparison with those which used to surround an Englishman buying land from Maories, and which still hamper similar transactions between the New Zealand Government and the natives. Here is the Pakeha Maori's own case:—

"I really can't tell to the present day who I purchased the land from, for there were about fifty different claimants, every one of whom assured me that the other forty-nine were 'humbugs,' and had no right whatever. The nature of the different titles of the different claimants was various. One man said his ancestors had killed off the first owners; another declared his ancestors had driven off the second party; another man, who seemed to be listened to with more respect than ordinary, declared his ancestor had been the first possessor of all, and had never been ousted, and that this ancestor was a huge lizard that lived in a cave on the land many years ago, and sure enough there was the cave to prove it. Besides the principal claims, there were an immense number of secondary ones—a sort of latent equities—which had lain dormant until it was known the pakeha had his eye on the land. Some of them seemed to me at the time odd enough. One man required payment because his ancestors, as he affirmed, had exercised the right of catching rats on it, but which he (the claimant) had never done, for the best of reasons, i.e., there were no rats to catch, except indeed pakeha rats, which were plenty enough, but this variety of rodent was not counted as game. Another claimed because his grandfather had been murdered on the land, and—as I am a veracious pakeha—another claimed payment because his grandfather had committed the murder! Then half the country claimed payments of various value, from one fig of tobacco to a musket, on account of a certain *wahi tapu*, or ancient burying-ground, which was on the land, and in which every one almost had had relations or rather ancestors buried, as they could clearly make out, in old

times, though no one had been deposited in it for about two hundred years, and the bones of the others had been (as they said) removed long ago to a *torere* in the mountains. It seemed an awkward circumstance that there was some difference of opinion as to where this same *wahi tapu* was situated, being, and lying, for in case of my buying the land it was stipulated that I should fence it round and make no use of it, although I had paid for it. (I, however, have put off fencing till the exact boundaries have been made out; and indeed I don't think I shall ever be called on to do so, the fencing proviso having been made, as I now believe, to give a stronger look of reality to the existence of the sacred spot, it having been observed that I had some doubts on the subject. No mention was ever made of it after the payments had been all made, and so I think I may venture to affirm that the existence of the said *wahi tapu* is of very doubtful authenticity, though it certainly cost me a round 'lot of trade.') There was one old man who obstinately persisted in declaring that he, and he alone, was the sole and rightful owner of the land; he seemed also to have a 'fixed idea' about certain barrels of gunpowder; but as he did not prove his claim to my satisfaction, and he had no one to back him, I of course gave him nothing; he nevertheless demanded the gunpowder about once a month for five-and-twenty years, till at last he died of old age, and I am now a landed proprietor, clear of all claims and demands, and have an undeniable right to hold my estate as long as ever I am able."

Here is a bit of native law:—

"Our chief had, for some time back, a sort of dispute with another magnate, who lived about ten miles off. I really cannot say who was in the right—the arguments on both sides were so nearly balanced, that I should not like to commit myself to a judgment in the case. The question was at last brought to a fair hearing at my friend's house. The arguments on both sides were very forcible, so much so that in the course of the arbitration our chief and thirty of his principal witnesses were shot dead in a heap before my friend's door, and sixty others badly wounded, and my friend's house and store blown up and burnt to ashes. My friend was all but, or indeed, quite ruined, but it would not have been 'correct' for him to complain—his loss in goods being far overbalanced by the loss of the tribe in men. He was, however, consoled by hundreds of friends who came in large parties to condole and *tangi* with him, and who, as was quite correct in such cases, shot and eat all his stock, sheep, pigs, goats, ducks, geese, fowls, &c., all in high compliment to himself, at which he felt proud, as a well-conducted and conditioned pakeha Maori (as he was) should do. He did not, however, survive these honours long, poor fellow. He died, and, strange to say, no one knew exactly what was the matter with him—some said it was the climate, they thought."

We must refer the reader to the book itself for a perfectly admirable description of the good old Maori gentleman of the olden time, at pages 145 to 152, and of his death, at pages 167 to 172; and for such serious and we may almost say philosophical treatment of a grave subject as the passage at pages 78-9, in which the Pakeha Maori discusses the effect upon races of the conditions to which their history happens to have made them subject. We will only allow ourselves further quotation from that part of the volume which relates the "war in the North," against the English, in the words of one of our native allies. The following passage describes the English soldiers:—

"Now, these soldiers had red garments; they did not work, or buy and sell, like the other pakeha people; they practised every day with their weapons, and some of them were constantly watching as if they expected to be attacked every moment. They were a very suspicious people, and

they had stiff, hard things round their necks to keep their heads up, lest they should forget, and look too much downwards, and not keep their eyes continually rolling about in search of an enemy. Great, indeed, was the fear of the Maori when they heard of these soldiers, for all the pakeha agreed in saying that they would attack any one their chief ordered them to attack, no matter whether there was any just cause or not; that they would fight furiously till the last man was killed, and that nothing could make them run away. Fear came like a cold fog on all the Ngapuhi, and no chief but Heke had any courage left. But Heke called together his people, and spoke to them, saying, 'I will fight these soldiers, I will cut down the flagstaff, I will fulfil the last words of Hongi Ika. Be not afraid of these soldiers, "all men are men." The soldiers are not gods; lead will kill them; and if we are beaten at last, we shall be beaten by a brave and noble people, and need not be ashamed.' . . . Then Kawiti, who is himself a *tohunga*, threw a *rakau* for his own path—he threw one for himself and people, and one for the soldiers, and one for the town. The dart for Kawiti went straight and fair, but it turned wrong side up, which is the omen of death; and so also did the dart for the soldiers go fair and straight, but also turned wrong side up. And when Kawiti saw this, he said, 'It is good. Here have I two darts ominous of success, and bravery, and death—our enemy will prove very strong and brave, they will suffer much from us, and so will we from them. I am not displeased, for this is war and not play.'

The combined prudence and superstition of the Maories is illustrated by this speech of a great chief:—

"Be brave, and strong, and patient. Fear not the soldiers, they will not be able to take this fort—neither be you afraid of all those different kinds of big guns you have heard so much talk of. I will turn aside the shot, and they shall do you no harm; but this pa and its defenders must be made sacred (*tapu*). You must particularly observe all the sacred rights and customs of your ancestors; if you neglect this in the smallest particular, evil will befall you, and I also shall desert you. You who pray to the God of the missionaries, continue to do so, and in your praying see you make no mistakes. Fight and pray. Touch not the spoils of the slain, abstain from human flesh, lest the European God should be angry, and be careful not to offend the Maori gods. It is good to have more than one god to trust to. This war party must be strictly sacred. Be brave, be strong, be patient."

Here is the beginning of the battle itself:—

"When the first rocket was fired it frightened all the dogs in the pa, and they ran barking away over the plain; and also one slave ran out of the pa. He was very much frightened, and he ran away by a path which went between the hundred soldiers and sailors who were behind the pa, and Walker's people, who were at the left side of it; and this slave never stopped running till he came to a place called Kai Namu, where Kawiti, who had marched all night to relieve Heke, had just arrived. And this slave ran up to Kawiti and his people, and began to cry out, 'Oh, the soldiers have a frightful gun; it comes roaring and flaming.' Here Kawiti stopped him, and said, 'I know all about all sorts of guns; all guns will kill, and all guns will also miss; this is the nature (*ahua*) of guns; but if you say one word more, I will split your head with my tomahawk.' So the slave became more afraid of Kawiti than he was of the rocket, and he ran away back to Heke, and told him that Kawiti with help was close at hand."

That the Pakeha Maori is one of those close and reasoning observers who alone ought to write "books of travel," is clear from such notes as his at p. 208, as to Maori narrative, and we would that we might hope that, even at his present age, he would some day

give us a complete monograph of the Maori people.

History of the Mongols from the Ninth to the Nineteenth Century. Part I. The Mongols Proper and the Kalmuks. By Henry H. Howorth. (Longmans & Co.)

THE Mongols seem far off from us now. They seemed farther off yet in the early thirteenth century, when the dull echo of great events passing in Asia began to make itself heard in the West, and broken rumours from the far East dropped upon Europe, much as a Latin poet represents the ash-flakes of Vesuvius as dropping among the Chinese:—

Videre Eoi monstrum admirabile Seres
Lanigeros cinere Ausonio canescere lucos.

Streams already current served to waft and tinge these flakes of rumour. For dreams of Prester John, a great Christian king and priest in Asia, had, in the preceding century, developed out of certain vague stories that caught the imagination of Europe, and had begotten a mass of fiction that all found credible. Hence, when a real world-conqueror arose in inner Asia, and the confused noise of his battles, the red gleam of his massacres, like "an awful rose of dawn," made themselves perceptible from the Eastern heaven, rumour conferred on him the character of a Christian potentate subduing the heathen. Such rumours waxed and waned for twenty or thirty years, till at last the sounds grew louder and more terrible, and Europe began to realize that the very life of Christendom was threatened by the Tartars. In 1240 a great host, under Batu a grandson of Chinghiz, overran and subjugated Russia. The venerable city of Kiev was almost eradicated. The host still raged westward with fire and slaughter. One great detachment, under a lieutenant of Batu's, entered Poland, then divided among many princes, burned Cracow, which had been deserted, found Breslau already (like Moscow in our fathers' days) reduced to ashes by the inhabitants, and near Liegnitz in Silesia (April 12th, 1241), the forces of Poland, Moravia, and Silesia, with the knights of the Teutonic Order, gathered, under Duke Henry the Second, to make head against this astounding inroad of pagans, underwent a sore defeat, the gallant Duke himself being slain. The history of this memorable campaign has been recently discussed fully by a Silesian author,* who has, as Mr. Howorth states, entered at length and critically into the various narratives and surviving traditions. The Mongols, after ravaging Moravia, turned to join Batu, who, with the main host, was overrunning Hungary. This country was weakened by division, and the king, Bela, was ill-prepared. He was defeated with great loss, and himself hardly escaped. Pesth, Gran (then the chief city), and Ofen, fell in succession.

News of the Tartars and their frightful butcheries spread dismay over Europe, which the rout at Liegnitz brought to a climax. Christendom, weak and disunited, seemed to lie once more at the feet of barbarian hordes. Pope Gregory the Ninth proclaimed a crusade, and wrote circular letters couched in terms of

grief and terror; but the Pope could not even bewail the approach of the Tartars without a backstroke at Cæsar. Enmity between them hindered co-operation, and Bela's earnest calls for help brought no response but words. Frederic himself received the summons of Batu to render his submission, and was offered choice of any post at the Khan's Court. He laughed, and said he was fit at least to be Grand Falconer to the Barbarian. To no human hand were thanks due when the terror was withdrawn. As if a trumpet recall had sounded from the East, the Tartar host suddenly turned their backs on Christendom. Okkodaï, son and successor of Chinghiz, was dead in the depths of Asia (December 11th, 1241), and a courier had come to summon back the armies from the West.

Chinghiz himself (or Jingis, as Mr. Howorth prefers), the terrible warrior who had grown from the chief of an obscure nomad confederacy to be the lord and fear of Asia, had been dead fifteen years. No other conqueror, probably, ever, like him, deliberately set before himself as a task the literal subjugation of the earth. Nor did he fall so very far short. For the empire which he founded probably embraced, at the time of its widest expansion, something like half of the human race. This widest development was not reached in his lifetime. But he had, as it were, sketched it out, and it was reached under the swing of conquest to which he had given impulse, an impulse which survived him some thirty years and more. The body of Chinghiz, girt round by the bones of slaughtered maidens and horses, was mouldering by the sources of the Onon, but (like John Brown's) "his soul was marching on." The massacres and wars that raged through so many years of this comprehensive enterprise swept away a mass of the human race which Mr. Howorth estimates (after whose calculation we know not), with a ghastly particularity, at 18,470,000 souls! But at the same time their movements over a vast field churned up and mingled, in a manner unprecedented in its extent, the whole body of the survivors. Mongol expeditions of war or diplomacy extended from India, nay, from Madagascar, Java, Cochin China, and Japan, round to the marches of Saxony, and from the tundras of Siberia to the mouths of the Indus and the Gulf of Skanderûn. During the progress of these the Mongols came into some kind of contact or relation, roundly speaking, with all the nations of the Old World.

"At the Court of the Great Khan," says Koeppen, "we meet ambassadors at once of the Papacy and of the Khalifate, of the Emperors of Byzantium and of the Kings of France, of the Sultans of Rûm, and of the Old Men of the Mountain, besides Russian grand-dukes, Georgian princes, Armenian kings, merchants, missionaries, priests, artists, speculators, of all tongues between Paris and Peking. Never before had Europe and Asia been so brought together; never before had the races and national characteristics of all East and West, of all the elements of culture, of all languages, religions, customs, accomplishments, in so high a degree, and in so varied an exchange, come in contact and (so to speak) interpenetrated, as at the Court, and under the rule, of the Chinghizidae."

Russian history, manners, and (to a certain extent) physiognomy, remain deeply affected by the Mongol tide. All Western Asia is strewn with the wrack which it left; its traces turn up curiously in the Russian vocabu-

* O. Wolff, 'Geschichte der Mongolen oder Tataren, besonders ihres Vordringens nach Europa, so wie ihrer Eroberungen und Einfälle in diesem Welttheile, kritisch bearbeitet.' Breslau, 1872.

lary, in our own literature, in Anglo-Indian phraseology. Take a few trivial examples. Four centuries after the Mongol conquest of Persia, we find a high dignitary of Islam at Isfahan giving Chardin a passport dated in the "Year of the Hog"! The Bengal magistrate who appoints a *darogha* is applying a Mongol official title to his native subordinate. The subaltern at an Indian mess-table who vows that the *Buxee* is an awful *bahauder*, but keeps a first-rate *bobachee*, is unconsciously pouring out a stream of terms (more or less corrupted) which the nomad hosts of Chinghiz brought with them from the depths of Mongolia.

It is easy to see that the Mongols offer a story well worthy of being told in English. The subject is one that intersects so many fields of Asiatic and European history as to afford ample scope for variety, whilst the rise and decline of their power are so marked as to be well adapted to spirited literary treatment; and we welcome Mr. Howorth's arduous enterprise. He has brought to it a great and varied amount of reading, the keenest interest in his subject, and vast diligence. And yet the last has too soon halted, as we shall have to indicate. His own favourite pursuit, as is well known, is ethnology, and the ethnological sections, which occupy a large part of his volume, are, perhaps, the best part of the work. Indeed, his history has grown out of an ethnological scheme:—

"Like others who have gone before, we, too, started ambitiously, our object having been to give a conspectus of ethnological facts, to write a treatise in which the human race and its various varieties should figure as it does in Pritchard's great work, with such additions as fresh discoveries have necessitated. But our purpose fell through; the work was too great. We next essayed a narrower field, in which our early reading had delighted, namely, to treat of the nomadic races of Asia." (P. vi.)

After all it must be said that, in regard to that ethnologic question which must present itself on the very face of this history, viz., the fundamental distinction, whatever it was, between Turk and Mongol, we find ourselves much as we were. No author that we know of has thrown much real light upon this subject. That two languages materially, perhaps radically, distinct, which we call Turk and Mongol, were spoken by different tribes of the Steppe region we know. But after the reading of many books, and much weariness of the flesh, that is about the point to which we get back again; and it is a point which was attained six hundred years ago by the mediæval encyclopædist in his '*Speculum Historiale*':—"Sunt autem duo genera Tartarorum, diversa quidem habentia ydiomata, sed unicum legem ac ritum, sicut Franci et Theutonici" ('*Vincentii Bellovacensis*, Sp. Hist. xxix., c. 73). Mr. Howorth, after Wolff, asserts the name *Tatar* to occur so early as A.D. 1126, i.e., nearly a century before Chinghiz and his hosts appeared on the Jaxartes, in the Persian work called '*Mujmal al-tawārikh*' (Compendium of Histories). This is a point which it is not in our power to verify, but we should be very slow to accept the word as genuine, and we are surprised that Mr. Howorth, like Herr Wolff, passes by the matter so cursorily. The name, indeed, also occurs in the Hindi verses of Chand Bardai (who died circa 1206), as they are

quoted somewhere by Tod. But in both cases it has probably been produced by the negligence of transcribers or the licence of recasters. The authority of Chand in current versions would equally establish the Indian use of the term *Firangi* (Frank), which is highly improbable, and the Indian cultivation of tobacco, which is impossible, in the twelfth century (see *Jour. As. Soc. Bengal*, xxxviii., Pt. 1, p. 154, and Forbes's '*Râs-Mâlâ*', i. 217).

Mr. Howorth inclines to take an optimistic view of the Mongol conquests and their terrible initiator, to which we cannot assent, and of which we hardly comprehend the grounds. Chinghiz, he says,—

"Was far more than a conqueror . . . In every detail of social and political economy he was a creator; his laws and his administrative rules are equally admirable and astounding to the student. Justice, tolerance, discipline, virtues that make up the modern ideal of a state, were taught and practised at his court. And when we remember that he was born and educated in a desert . . . that, unlike Charlemagne and Alfred, he could not draw his lesson from a past, whose evening glow was still visible in the horizon, we are tempted to treat as exaggerated the history of his times, and to be sceptical of so much political insight having been born of such unpromising materials." (P. 49.)

Again:—

"If it be no small thing for any man to leave his footprint in the page of history, his must surely have had an uncommon power who stamped his mark so deeply and so lastingly on such a shifting, treacherous quagmire as the history of Asia. . . . His creed was to sweep away all cities, as the haunts of slaves and of luxury, that his herds might freely feed upon grass, whose green was free from dusty feet. . . . Yet although a *tabula rasa* was created, a fresh story was also writ upon the page. Nor must we forget, whatever creed we hold to, that, whether it be by pestilence or famine, or by the hands of such as Sesostris, Sennacherib, Darius, Alexander, Cæsar, Attila, Timur, Bonaparte, and their ilk, the scourges of God seem inevitably to recur at intervals to purge the world of the diseased and the decaying, the weak and the false, the worn-out and the blasé, the fool and the knave. That as surely as the winter scatters the leaves, so surely does a time come in human history when the fruits of human toil, the fairest it may be that can be compassed by man, must be trodden under. . . . 'Blood and iron' is not a new creed, nor one invented by Jingis Khan. . . . If we mete equal justice to the breed (of conquerors), and measure them, not so much by the ruin they created as by what they placed in the void,—if we measure them by their opportunities, their antecedents, and their aims, and not by the feeble æsthetic standard some poets have created by which to discriminate between the destroyers of mankind, we shall find Jingis Khan towering head and shoulders above most of the rest, while as to his thirst for blood, and the greedy draughts he took of it, we must wait for an excuse till the great day comes when men shall know why suffering and misery are permitted at all. . . ." (Pp. 113-114.)

And, in the Preface:—

"It was so, to a large extent, with the victims of the Mongol arms: their prosperity was hollow and pretentious; their grandeur very largely but outward glitter; and the diseased body needed a sharp remedy. The apoplexy that was impending could, probably, only be staved off by much blood-letting. The demoralized cities must be sown with salt, and their inhabitants inoculated with fresh streams of vigorous blood from the uncontaminated desert. And then there came, as there always comes, a Renaissance—a new life. When the wave of destruction was spent, the relics and fragments of the old arts and culture becom:

the seeds of a more vigorous growth. The virgin soil was speedily covered with fresh green. I have no doubt myself, as I have pointed out in the following pages, that the art of printing, the mariner's compass, fire-arms, and a great many details of social life, were not discovered in Europe, but imported by means of Mongol influence from the furthest East." (P. xi.)

Where are the grounds on which rest these high eulogies of Chinghiz as a lawgiver and statesman? Where do we find the "fresh story" writ upon the *tabula rasa* of Asia, "*linguâ Tartaricâ et literis Uiguricis*," as William of Rubrouck says of the letter he carried back from the Khan to St. Lewis? Where are we to seek this green crop of renaissance from the soil fattened by the blood of eighteen millions? Is it in the brief splendour of Kublai's reign in China,—a splendour sadly tarnished by the repeated disaster of foolish maritime expeditions, and by such maddening tyranny and wrong, under the very shadow of the Imperial candlestick, as Kublai's Venetian admirer tells us of? Is it in the oppression and deterioration of Russia, and the retardation for centuries of its civilization? in the almost utter annihilation of the culture of Transoxiana and Khorazmia. What was Persia the better for all that massacre? or Georgia and Armenia barbarized? or India harried and tortured for nearly one hundred years on her Western borders, so that fair plains, once rife with populous cities, were for centuries given up to the wild beasts? These awful visitations had their purpose, we doubt not; but it is hardly unlocked in a few easy assumptions. Chinghiz limited better the character and mystery of his office when, in his grim sermon from the pulpit of the chief mosque at Bokhara, he called himself (like Attila before him) the scourge of God!

Koeppen, in a passage following that quoted in a preceding column, concludes that a result of all that movement and mingling of nations was the introduction of the yet uncultured Latin and German nations to the superior civilization of the far East, and to the adoption of its most important appliances. Mr. Howorth, as we have seen, takes the same view. If it were truly so, the Mongol era would indeed have left even deeper marks on Europe than upon Asia; and to trace the history of these might well have formed the most interesting and important part of the present work. We find no such endeavour. In fact, there is no good reason for tracing the knowledge either of the compass or of gunpowder to the alleged medium. Regarding printing, more may be urged; and the remarkable coincidences that the late Lord de la Zouch pointed out between some of the earliest block-books and the Chinese fashion of the art do indicate a connexion. At best, however, this tract was but as that of the germ of life which Sir William Thomson, in a famous discourse, suggested had been carried to this earth from some other sphere by meteoric agency. Only the very seed and rudiment of printing can have been so transported, and it would have been so transported in vain had it not fallen on soil so rich as that which the thirteenth century had prepared in Europe.

Mr. Howorth (p. vii) makes a spirited defence of himself against a possible charge of presumption for having undertaken such a work as this without a knowledge of Oriental

tongues. A few clauses will indicate the tenor of his argument :—

"Consider the various languages in which the original story is enshrined. To be a profound Chinese, Persian, Armenian, Russian, German, French, and Latin scholar is in itself an impossibility. . . . I hold the two works to be entirely apart. One man carves the stone from the quarry, and another shapes it into a figure; one man digs out the gold, and another makes the embossed bowl. . . . (The combination) is not only unreasonable, but it is, in fact, securing very inferior work."

This reminds us of the half serious, half-jocular dictum heard many years ago from a very distinguished Anglo-Indian,—"Fools learn languages, and wise men profit by their labours." There is a certain amount of justice in Mr. Howorth's defence; but we must say that we never travel far in his company on this Asiatic road without wishing him a modicum of linguistic knowledge. We wish (to use his own figure) that he knew better the grain of his material before applying the chisel, that we might not have the sculpture marred by such uncomely flecks and streaks as we are about to notice.

He would not have suggested that a trace of the *Kestimis*, a people mentioned by Rashid-uddin, is to be found in the prevalent application of *Kitshe* to various tribes of Siberia (p. 24), seeing that *kichi* is merely the adjective "little." He would not have fancied that the name of the Juan-Juan, a conquering race of the sixth century, had anything to do with the Chinese dynastic title *Yuen*, adopted by Kublai and his successors. He would not give us "Thus or Toos" as alternative names of a once famous city of Khorasan. He would hardly worry us with the recurrence of such inopportune familiarities as "Ghiath" and "Jelai" for *Ghiyathuddin* and *Jalaluddin*; something like calling "Charlemagne" and "William" of Normandy, in sober history, *Char* and *Will*. His orthography is a constant affliction. We have in the same page Jelair, Juji, Jaderats, Temudjin, Taidshuts, Tagadshar, where the symbols *j*, *dj*, *dsh*, all represent exactly the same sound. We have "Jakut," after some German, where *Yakut* is meant; "Girdkuh" (for *Girdkuh*), which seems to reflect a German's representation of Persian spoken by a Turk; and we are teased continually by *Khulagu*, when Marco Polo, or even Mr. Longfellow with his "great Captain Alai," might have shown Mr. Howorth that the name of the destroyer of the Khalifate was but weakly aspirated.

Passing to some other blemishes, surely an historian may shun uncongenial pomp of style without sinking to such bathos as ours sometimes drops into; e.g., when translating from Schmidt's 'Sanang Setzen,' the dirge chanted before Chinghiz's body by an old warrior, he makes the latter demand of his dead master, "Why hast thou left thy people in this fix?" (p. 106). The author speaks (justly) of the "peculiar local colour" of the whole coronach. But surely to render the local colour of the mediæval steppe he did ill to borrow from the slang of a Yankee tavern. Once and again (pp. 77, 87) Mr. Howorth speaks of "balistæ," the primitive artillery of the Mongols. Why not *bannisters*, which would be better English and not worse nonsense? He frets us by speaking of the "heir of the (Mongol) throne or daphin" (p. 326). Why not, "or Prince of Wales"? What kind of citation is it, in a

work of some scholarly claims, to speak (we quote *punctatim*) of "a canon of Cracow and author of a work de Sarmatia in Grinaci orbis novus Basil, 1555, &c., who has given us a capital account of the proceedings" (p. 143). Other strange negligences, such as "blaséd," and "Timur, Bonaparte, and their ilk" (as if ilk=species), have occurred in our quotations.

It is impossible to avoid being annoyed with Mr. Howorth for such freaks; it is equally impossible to quarrel with a writer so full of zeal, so ingenuous in the acknowledgment of faults. When we said above that with all his pains he had not used enough, we referred especially to the absence of Index and Table of Contents. He pleads, doubtless, that this is only Part I. We are sorry for that; the work is already too big; and, considering how remote the completion of Part II. may be, his excuse reminds us of that of the marshal of the Spanish Court at a coronation, when the king blamed some mal-arrangement: "It shall be amended next time, your majesty"! Even chapter headings there are none, and the chapters are of large extent; so that the book sometimes seems to figure the vast steppes which form its theatre. This is a "happy thought"; but even the steppes had their *yams*, or post-houses, that marked the spaces, and helped the weary rider to reckon his longitude.

Of the two maps by Mr. Ravenstein we can only speak with praise, but we have no room for detail; and if, on some accounts, we have used language not laudatory of Mr. Howorth, it is because we expect him yet to do much good work, and he needs to take to heart such animadversions as ours. Let us conclude by giving our readers that which the author has not given us, a brief list of the contents in a tabular form :—

Preface.—Introduction, containing a Notice of the Chief Authorities.—Chap. I. Nations and Tribes of Asia in the beginning of the Thirteenth Century.—Chap. II. Origins of the Mongols.—Chap. III. History of Jingis (Chinghiz) Khan.—Chap. IV. History of Ogotai (Okkodai) Khan, and his immediate Successors in the Supreme Khanship.—Chap. V. The Great Khans Mangu and Khubilai (Kublai).—Chap. VI. Successors of Kublai on the Throne of Peking, and after Expulsion from it.—Chap. VII. The Chakhars and their Forty-nine Banners.—Chap. VIII. The Khalkhas, or Northern Mongols.—Chap. IX. The Khoshotes, Western Mongols, proper Olots or Sok-pa.—Chap. X. The Keraites and Torguts, with a Disquisition on Prester John.—Chap. XI. The Choros and Tribes of Zungaria.—Chap. XII. The Buriats.

Notes, corrections, and additions make up the volume to nearly 800 pages of close print. It is a monument of industry and zeal; but we think that Mr. Howorth would, on the whole, have done better to translate D'Ohsson, adding his own ethnographical notes.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

An Idyl of the Alps. By the Author of 'Mary Powell.' (Hall & Co.)

The Leaguer of Lathom. By Harrison Ainsworth. 3 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

Power's Partner. By May Byrne. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

It is long since we read 'Mary Powell'; but if our memory serves, it was written rather from the "Church and King" point of view, and dealt in a great measure with the

unkind treatment which that odious sectary, Mr. John Milton, inflicted on his wife. If so, the author has changed her views, or prefers to take another side for dramatic purposes; for her present story is intended to set forth the virtues of the small community of Protestants who are, perhaps, best known to English people from a sonnet of the same Mr. John Milton. The heroine, Octavia di Solara, had she lived a few years longer, might have been one of the

—slaughtered saints whose bones
Lie scattered on the Alpine mountains cold.

As it was, she married a son of one of the great families, among those who were soon to be handed to infamy as "the bloody Piemontese," and died after a few months of wedlock, a victim to the proselytizing zeal of her husband's family. The story is told in the not very robust style which characterizes its author: it is healthier than Miss Broughton's style, and that is the best we can say of it. The author appears to have studied her authorities for the description of the Waldenses of the period with praiseworthy diligence; but we hardly believe that a young lady, though brought up in the strictest sect of Protestantism, would have gone so far as to faint away in consequence of being present at the celebration of the Mass in the Cathedral of Turin. When the author speaks (on p. 2) of property being "sequestered," it is clear that she has not read 'Happy Thoughts,' the hero of which remarkable work makes, if we remember aright, a similar mistake; but he has the advantage of our author in that he tries to pass it off as a joke. Jokes, however, seem not to be the strong point of the author of 'An Idyl of the Alps.'

Mr. Ainsworth deserves well of his country, in that he probably induces schoolboys and young ladies to learn fragments of its history, which they would never read for pleasure except in the form of novels. The present 'Leaguer of Lathom,' though it does not come up to any artistic rules of criticism as a novel, is, on the whole, a faithful transcript of Hall's MS. and the Chetham Society narrative; and the interpolation of some irrelevant love-matters will not spoil the interest of a stirring chapter from the civil wars for the sort of readers who take their historical knowledge in this diluted form.

Miss Byrne's story has vigour and style to recommend it, but its fault is its utter melancholy. On the whole, the materials are dramatic; but the drawing of the characters is more akin to scene-painting than portraiture; and it would require the thunders of the gallery to overcome the sensation of disgust which the heroine inspires in all but her attachment to her wronged but insignificant father.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The fifth edition of any work rarely calls for special notice in a review. In this instance, however, merely to recognize the fact of a new edition would be far from doing justice to the author. Mr. Fawcett has taken much pains to keep his *Manual of Political Economy* (Macmillan & Co.) up to the requirements of the day; and, as it has been not unaptly said, any book dealing with the social life of the British nation must approach the character of an annual to keep pace with the times. Accordingly Mr. Fawcett has entirely rewritten the chapter on the recent discoveries of gold and silver, and has also inserted a new chapter on the

depreciation of the latter metal. It is remarkable how rapidly silver, which Locke speaks of as being "the instrument and measure of commerce in all the civilized and trading parts of the world," and which retained a pre-eminence as the standard of value for more than a century after the time of Locke, has been deposed from that position. The two new chapters in Mr. Fawcett's manual contain a careful and impartial summary of the principal events which have influenced the value of silver in recent years. As might have been expected from the great interest which Mr. Fawcett has taken in Indian finance, considerable space is given to the effect of the depreciation of silver on the revenues of India. Though several of the causes which have influenced the value of silver during the last few years, such as the demonetization of that metal in Germany, are probably temporary in their influence, yet if the relative proportions in which gold and silver have exchanged against each other during the last three centuries are taken into account, it will be seen that during that period, which embraces what may be called the whole field of really modern history, silver has continuously been dropping in value in comparison with gold. And since the region in which gold has been adopted as the standard of value is always extending, and the result must inevitably be the gradual and increasing depreciation of silver, it is much to be desired that steps should be taken in preparation for a change in the standard of value in India, which, however costly and difficult to carry out, would seem to be inevitable if that country is to hold its due place among the commercial communities of the world. To Mr. Fawcett the difficulties in the way of arranging this seem insurmountable; but, while every one must join with him in feeling how desirable it is that the great loss which India has suffered from the recent rate of Exchange should be met by increased thrift and economy, it should be borne in mind that to continue to carry on the trade of a country with a currency slowly depreciating in value, is really to repeat and to continue the useless toils of the Danaides. Meanwhile the present state of the silver market leads to the hope that the difference in values to be bridged over may not ultimately prove to be as large as was at one time feared. The scanty measure of space which can be allotted here to Mr. Fawcett's work must be taken in no sense to indicate our feeling as to its value. It is a very good sign that a fifth edition has been so rapidly called for, and we cannot doubt that, when a fresh issue is needed, the republication will be marked with the same conscientious desire to keep it up to the wants of the day as has been shown in the present edition.

The articles devoted to Salt, the Preservation of Food, Sugar Refining, Butter and Cheese, Brewing, &c., in the new volume of Mr. Stanford's series on the British Manufacturing Industries, are good. That on the preservation of food is particularly interesting. The "Potsages Économiques de la Société Générale" are so superior to their British rivals that they really deserved a passing mention, along with the French vegetables.

MESSRS. WARNE & CO. have added Pope to their "Chandos Poets," a series which already includes Pope's translation of Homer, and the first collected edition of Dr. Mackay's poems, many of which have attained a wide and deserved popularity.

MESSRS. DE LA RUE have sent us a large number of diaries, including their useful *Desk Diary*, and some pocket-books, that seem almost too dainty for use, but which we know, by experience, will prove most servicable. Some delightful calendars, in morocco cases: an ingenious *Pyramid Calendar*, and our old friend, the *Red Calendar*, all attest the taste and skill of their designers. A large number of Christmas Cards, some of them truly gorgeous, have reached us from the same firm.

Fulcher's Ladies' Memorandum Book, issued

by Mr. Pratt, of Sudbury, has again reached us. We are sorry to hear that the old editor died last May.

A VARIETY of popular serials for the young are on our table. *The Prizs, Sunday*, and *Chatterbox* of Mr. Wells Gardner, and *Good Things*, published by Messrs. Strahan. *Good Things* is intended for rather older readers than the others, and contains a serial story by the late Mr. H. Kingsley. *Chatterbox* is excellent. *The Sunday Scholar's Companion*, published by the Church of England Sunday School Institute, is another periodical of the same class, but is more ecclesiastical in tone.

WE have on our table *First Easy Greek Reading Book*, by Rev. E. Fowle (Longmans),—*Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius*, by Rev. J. Davies, M.A. (Blackwood),—*Measurement of the Sun's Distance*, by J. Harris (Trübner),—*Lectures on Astronomical Theories*, by J. Harris (Trübner),—*Lectures, Reports, Letters, and Papers on Sanitary Questions*, by R. Rawlinson, C.B. (H. S. King & Co.),—*A Visit to German Schools*, by J. Payne (H. S. King & Co.),—*Only a Dog*, by the Author of 'Hetty's Resolve' (Seeley),—*The Californians*, by W. M. Fisher (Macmillan),—*The Wreckers' Light*, by Rev. J. S. Mackenzie, A.M. (Simpkin),—*Mim's Charity*, by S. de K. (Marlborough),—*New Plays*, by an Old Author (Hall),—*Poems*, by E. L. Floyer (Griffiths & Farran),—*The Lord's Prayer*, by Rev. M. Margoliouth, M.A. LL.D., &c. (Bagster),—*Behind the Veil*, by T. Griffith, A.M. (Longmans),—*Hours of Thought on Sacred Things*, by J. Martineau (Longmans),—*The Life After Death and the Things to Come*, by Rev. J. Cullen (Hatchards),—*Hamlet*, by Dr. H. von Struve (Weimar, Huschke),—*La Civilisation et ses Lois*, by Th. F. Brentano (Paris, Plon), and *Die Kirche in Frankreich*, by Abbé Michaud, translated by F. Hoffmann (Reussel). Among New Editions we have *Cracroft's Trustee's Guide* (Stanford),—*First Easy Latin Reading Book*, by Rev. E. Fowle Longmans),—*A Short and Easy Greek Book*, by Rev. E. Fowle (Longmans),—*A Short and Easy Latin Book*, by Rev. E. Fowle (Longmans),—*Second Easy Latin Reading Book*, by Rev. E. Fowle (Longmans),—*Healthy Skin*, by E. Wilson (Churchill),—*Nutrition in Health and Disease*, by J. H. Bennett, M.D. (Churchill),—*Astronomy without Mathematics*, by Sir E. Beckett, Bart. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge),—*The Turkish Empire*, by Rev. T. Milner, M.A. (Religious Tract Society),—*A Trip up the Volga to the Fair of Nijni-Novgorod*, by H. A. Munro-Butler-Johnstone, M.P. (Parker),—*Studies in Ancient History: Primitive Marriage*, by J. F. McLennan, M.A. LL.D. (Quaritch),—*Consuelo*, by George Sand (Weldon),—*Heart and Home Songs*, arranged by M. E. Townsend (Hatchards),—and *The Spiritual Body*, by J. C. Earle, B.A. (Longmans). Also the following Pamphlets: *Milton's Lycidas*, edited by F. Main, M.A. (Stanford),—*Brief Considerations on Diseases of the Ear*, by L. Thomas, M.D. (Wyman),—*The Place and Function of Art in Religion*, by H. Clark (Liverpool, Gilling),—*Lina's Disobedience*, *Sybil's Cat*, and *How to Earn a Good Name*, by A. A. S. (A. A. Salaman),—and *Die Familie Braunschweig in Russland*, by A. Brückner (St. Petersburg, Schmitzdorf).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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Benson's (R. M.) *Benedictus Dominus*, Part 1, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
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Golden Words for the Young, illuminated, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Home's (M.) *Carstairs*, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
Irving's (W.) *Bracebridge Hall*, illus. by R. Caldecott, 6/1 cl.
Kington's (W. H. G.) *Snow shoes and Canoes*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Louisa Broadhurst, a Tale, by A. M., 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Mahaffy's (J. P.) *Kambles and Studies in Greece*, cr. 8vo. 8/6 cl.
Milner's (E.) *Sunshine in the Shady Place*, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Morning of Life, Vol. 2, 1876, 8vo. 2/1 cl.
Nobis's (M. L.) *Harold's Choice*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Palmer's (E.) *Heroes of Ancient Greece*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Percy's Reliques, edited by H. B. Wheatley, Vol. 1, 8vo. 12/1 cl.
Sandford's (Mrs. D. P.) *Frisk and his Flock*, fcap. 4to. 5/1 cl.
Spender's (Mrs. J. K.) *Mark Kymmer's Revenge*, 3 vols. 3/6 cl.
Stevenon's (Mr. A. E.) *Henry St. Clare*, cr. 8vo. 6/1 cl.
Supremacy of Man, 8vo. 6/1 cl.
Three Years at Wolverton, a Public School Story, cr. 8vo. 5/1 cl.
Trollope's (A.) *Last Chronicles of Barset*, 1 illus. 2 vols. 7/1 cl.
Webb's Fishing Book, 8vo. 2/6 swd.

DR. BARLOW.

HENRY CLARK BARLOW, M.D., F.G.S., whose death was briefly recorded in last week's *Athenæum*, was born at Newington Butts, Surrey, on May 12th, 1806. In 1822 he was articled to an architect and surveyor, but relinquished the profession in 1827, and, after studying for some time in Paris, was matriculated as a medical student in the University of Edinburgh, where he took the degree of M.D. in August, 1837, but without any intention of following the profession. In the spring of the next year he went again to Paris, and in 1840 made his first tour through Belgium, Germany, and Holland. In 1841 he went for the first time to Italy, where he remained nearly five years, and in December, 1845, returned to England, bringing home a large collection of notes of travel, sketches and drawings of the various scenes he had visited. In 1846 he went again to Italy, and, after spending two winters in Florence, extended his travels to Athens and Constantinople, returning through Hungary and Austria. In 1849 he again visited Germany, passing some time in Berlin, Dresden, and Prague, examining and making notes on the various picture-galleries, museums, &c., of these cities. In 1850 appeared his first printed paper on Dante, 'Remarks on the Reading of the 59th Verse of the 5th Canto of the Inferno,' and from this time his whole life seems to have been devoted to the study of the 'Divina Commedia.' In 1852 he was again in Paris, examining the Codici in the various libraries there, the result of which, and of his collations of above 150 other MSS. in Italy, Germany, and in England, are given in his

'Critical, Historical, and Philosophical Contributions to the Study of the Divina Commedia,' published, in 1866, "in commemoration of the sixth centenary of Dante Allighieri," which had been celebrated in the previous year. It had been originally proposed to hold a festival in Italy in commemoration of the great poet in 1859, but it was very judiciously postponed, in accordance with the recommendation of Dr. Barlow himself in a letter which appeared in the *Athenæum*, December 25th, 1858, in which, after pointing out that the year 1859 had "no correspondence either with Dante's birth, death, or any remarkable event in his life," he urged that the proper year for such a demonstration would be 1865, the six hundredth anniversary of his birth. A full account of the proceedings of the three days, May 14th, 15th, 16th, at Florence, in which the Doctor himself took a prominent part, was published by him anonymously in the following year 'The Sixth Centenary Festivals of Dante Allighieri in Florence and at Ravenna. By a Correspondent.' The festival at Ravenna having taken place in June of the same year, in consequence of the discovery of the bones of Dante, in the latter city, about ten days after the termination of the great festival at Florence, an account of this most interesting discovery was forwarded to the *Athenæum* (September 9th, 1865), by our enthusiastic Dantophilist,—who, it need hardly be added, when the intelligence reached him at Florence, was soon on his way to visit the spot,—and is more fully detailed in the publication above mentioned, which contains also a report of all the proceedings of the three days' festival (June 24th, 25th, 26th) at Ravenna.

Dr. Barlow's numerous contributions to the columns of this journal, more especially those relating to Dante and Italy, are too well known to need further allusion to them here; a bare enumeration of them, and of those in other periodicals during the last five-and-twenty years, would more than fill a column, without mentioning the *brochures*, all bearing more or less on the same subject, which he from time to time printed, chiefly for distribution among his friends and literary acquaintances, and to all the continental libraries which he had visited in the course of his travels. F. N.

'THE COURT OF LOVE.'

It is not often that my scrupulously careful friend, Mr. Skeat, makes a mistake. But, so far from there being no MS. of the 'Court of Love,' there is the well-known "Mossy Quince" MS., R. iii. 19 (formerly 20), in the Library of Trinity College, Cambridge, from which Stowe printed so many poems; and its date must be about 1490, while the somewhat later copy of the 'Court of Love' in it is soon after 1500, say fifty years before Mr. Skeat dates the poem. Moreover, Dr. Morris's Preface, p. ix, to his edition of Chaucer, expressly states that his print of the poem is taken from this MS., which is a notorious one to all Chaucer students.

Mr. Skeat's point of "Galfride" being Chaucer, whatever its worth or worthlessness,* which he says he has not seen before, was taken by me in *Notes and Queries*, in 1872, a journal to which both Mr. Skeat and I have so long contributed, under our "old captain," Mr. W. J. Thoms, and his successor in command, Dr. Doran. And I referred to my correspondence there on "the spuriousness of the 'Court of Love,' &c." in my 'Trial-Forwards,'

* It may well be worthless, for Geoffrey de Vinesauf, as was urged against me in 1872, wrote a treatise, 'De Arte Poetica,' and I think he follows Ovid in the poem better than Chaucer would. Moreover, Chaucer is "Chaucer" to his successors, and not "Galfride." And assuredly Tyrwhitt was mistaken in thinking that Chaucer, when writing of the unlucky day, Friday, meant to turn Geoffrey de Vinesauf into ridicule, by the lines,—

O Gaufred, dere mayster soverayn,
That, when the worthy king Richard was slayn
With schot, compleyndist his deeth so sore,
Why nad I nought thy sentence and thy lore,
The Friday for to chiden, as dede yet?
(For on a Fryday sotly slayn was he.)

A little sly fun there may have been in Chaucer's lines, as there pretty nearly always was, but still De Vinesauf was his "dere mayster soverayn." Chaucer chaffs Gower, but doesn't ridicule him.

Corrections and Additions, 29th of March, 1872, which has been for four years and a half on Mr. Skeat's shelves.

But while correcting these little slips of memory, so natural in one who works so hard at so many subjects as Mr. Skeat does, let me express my gratitude to him for adding the weight of his well-known and well-won authority on the history of English to that of our Chaucer leader, Mr. Bradshaw, of Prof. ten Brink, and myself against the genuineness of the 'Court of Love.' Mr. Skeat is, without a shadow of doubt, right in pronouncing the poem spurious—impossible to have been written by Chaucer. It cannot be his either in rhymes, grammar, or words; and nothing but ignorance of Early English can make men still attribute it to Chaucer.

One argument in its favour has been sought from the fact of my friend, Dr. Richard Morris, having allowed the 'Court of Love' to stand in his Aldine edition of Chaucer's works for Messrs. G. Bell & Sons. But I have before explained that what Dr. Morris undertook to do in that edition was, not to determine what poems were Chaucer's, but to take Tyrwhitt's word for that, accept the poems as they stood in the old Aldine edition, and print better texts of them from the best MSS. His Preface says, "In this edition of Chaucer's poetical works, Tyrwhitt's text has been replaced by one based upon manuscripts where such are known to exist."

The work had to be done at a great pace. I stopped the mere reprint just as it was going to press, and I know that Dr. Morris refused, necessarily under the circumstances, to go into the question of the genuineness of the doubted works. But were he to do so now, with his unrivalled knowledge of Early English, I am sure he would confirm the judgment of Mr. Bradshaw, Prof. ten Brink, Mr. Skeat, and myself, that the 'Court of Love' is no more Chaucer's than the 'Tommy, make room for your Uncle,' that my boy brought home from school last half, and dinned into his ears and mine. F. J. FURNIVALL,

Founder and Director of the Chaucer Society.

The existence of this MS., which I had for the moment forgotten, really confirms the main points of my argument. It is the very original from which Stowe printed the poem, showing that the earliest trace of it is in the sixteenth century. W. W. SKEAT.

A QUESTION OF AUTHORSHIP.

2, Vernon Place, W.C., Nov. 15, 1876.

THE claim put forth by Mr. John T. Dexter in the *Athenæum* of last week, as relating to myself, is a worse than graceless attempt to connect his name with a not wholly unsuccessful book, and get credit for original authorship without either doing the work or furnishing the ideas. The claim, I assert, is entirely unfounded, beyond the fact that Mr. Dexter performed, as a professed friend and literary expert, a kindly and highly appreciated service in assisting me upon two brief articles contributed last year to the *Transatlantic* (which had accepted articles of mine before ever I knew Mr. Dexter), one of which was made use of in my book, "The Dutch in the Arctic Seas."

There is a history to this which I might be very glad to have known, but I forbear troubling the public with it, beyond saying that an attempt of Mr. Dexter's to interfere with my enterprise a year ago resulted in converting a magazine article of nine pages into a volume of 263, not one page of which had he seen as a book, until I hastened a copy to him as a friendly courtesy, four months ago, containing in my preface thanks to himself, given in his own language (p. xxxiii). I do not owe one article to him; and yet, in a sense, I owe to him the book—not to his early assistance, for which I am grateful, but to his attempt to upset my book, for which, since he could not, I am now also grateful. S. R. VAN CAMPEN.

HEBREW-ARABIC MANUSCRIPTS AT ST. PETERSBURG.

DR. NEUBAUER has just finished a careful Report on the Hebrew-Arabic and Hebrew manuscripts acquired last year by the Imperial Library of St. Petersburg from the late Abraham Firkovitz of Tshufut-Kalé, in the Crimea. This second collection—the first was bought by the same Library in the year 1862—is composed of more than 1,000 separate volumes, which consist chiefly of fragments, collected apparently from the Karaite synagogues in Egypt, and at Hit in Mesopotamia.

The following are the most important works:—
1. *Biblical MSS.*—A large number of Pentateuch rolls and Biblical MSS., the oldest of the latter being dated 913-933. They contain the Massorah, wherein additions to our text of the Massorah and many names of unknown Massoreths are to be found, not to speak of the list of various readings occasioned by the differences between the Eastern and Western schools. The catalogue which Dr. Harkavy is preparing will give a full account of these variations. The colophons as well as the list of the Massoreths have already been published by him.

2. *Halakkah and Haggadah.*—There are only a few leaves of Talmudical works, which will be described by Rabbi Nathan Rabinovitz, the editor of the "varie lectiones" of the Babylonian Talmud according to the Munich MS. Of later Rabbinical Halakkah there are large fragments of the Halakhoth Gedoloth, of the responsa of the Geonim, one leaf of R. Saadyah Gaon's "regule mactationis," with a commentary, Halakhoth by R. Mebasser Gaon, and finally the casuistic part on Zizith (Numbers xv. 38-40) by R. Samuel ben Hofni Gaon. In Karaite casuistry this collection is enormously rich. Besides a large number of old books of commandments, there are those (1) of Daniel of Kumes, hitherto only known by a few quotations, (2) of Abu Yakub el-Bazir (in Hebrew Joseph bar-Roeh), (3) of Joseph of Kirkisán (the old Karkemish), (4) the second part of Abu Sari's (Mazliah) 'Sepher Dinim'; besides those of Yepheth ha-Levi and others, which are also to be found in the first collection and in the National Library at Paris. Most of these are in Arabic.

3. *Exegesis.*—In this branch the new collection outrivals every other library, although the works are not complete: a. Rabbinic commentaries. (1) a very old fragment of R. Saadyah Gaon's commentary on a part of Exodus; the existence of a commentary on the Pentateuch by this famous author was only known up to the present time by quotations. (2) The commentary of Jehudah ben Bal'am on the Prophets (two large fragments almost complete) and one leaf of his commentary on the Psalms. (3) Three large fragments of R. Thanhum's, of Jerusalem, commentary on Isaiah. Also fragments of his commentary on the Psalms, and a large fragment of his grammatical and lexicographical introduction to his commentaries (7). b. Of Karaite commentaries there are, besides those of Yepheth ben 'Ali (almost complete) and of Salmon ben Yerahm, to be found also in the former collection, fragments of Jacob of Kirkisán on the Pentateuch, of Abu-l-Faraj Furkán Joshua on the Pentateuch and a part of the Prophets, and of David ben Boaz han-Nassi on Ecclesiastes. There are a great number of fragments containing short commentaries (or rather vocabularies) on passages of the various books of the Old Testament (all in Arabic). Numerous fragments of homilies or introductions to the Pentateuch in Arabic. On the margin of a fragment of Thanhum's commentary on Judges, passages are quoted from Abraham bar Hiyya and R. Joseph ibn Kapril—authors not known as having written commentaries—as well as a passage on Joshua iii. 16, by R. Moses ben Shesheth, whose commentary on Jeremiah and Ezekiel was edited by Mr. Driver from a Bodleian MS.

4. *Grammar and Lexicography.*—There are fragments of R. Saadyah Gaon's grammar in Hebrew; a fragment of R. Hayya Gaon's dictionary; fragments of Hayyudj's grammatical works, as well as large and numerous fragments of Abu-l-

Walid's grammar; of his lexicon, as well as of his Opuscula. There are also two copies of large fragments of Ibrahim ben Barun's كتاب الوازنة.

5. *Poetry*.—According to Dr. Harkavy's list, there are fragments of the Diwans of Gabirol, of Jehudah ha-Levy, of Moses ben Ezra, of Jacob ben Elazar, of Harizi's translation of Hariri, and a great number of anonymous writings. Amongst Prayer-Books the rite of Tuster (in Persia) may be mentioned specially.

6. *Philosophy*.—A fragment of R. Saadyah Gaon's كتاب الامانات, and of Isaac Israeli's unknown treatise, called كتاب الوامر, and some treatises by Karaite Jews. There are also fragments of controversial treatises of medical, mathematical, and astronomical books, both in Arabic and in Hebrew, the authors of which remain at present unknown.

Literary Gossip.

CAPT. NARES, we are glad to hear, is writing an account of his Arctic Expedition.

MR. GLADSTONE will, it is said, contribute an article to the next number of the *Contemporary Review*, 'On the Hellenic Aspect of the Eastern Question.'

THE Memoir of the late Sir W. Fairbairn, Bart., F.R.S., the distinguished mechanical engineer, is nearly ready for press, and the announcement of its publication will shortly appear. The editor is Prof. W. Pole, F.R.S., who has been entrusted by the family with all letters and documents requisite.

WE have reason to believe that the *Civil Service Gazette* is right in identifying "Mr. John Bradley," in whose travels in Siam we pointed out many strange passages a fortnight ago, with "Capt. Lawson," whose pretended adventures in New Guinea we exposed in these columns some time back.

MESSRS. HANSARD'S Monthly List of Parliamentary Papers for October is short. It contains eight Reports and Papers and eleven Papers by Command. Among the former will be found the Statement exhibiting the Moral and Material Progress of East India for the Year 1874-75; the Fifty-Fourth Report of the Commissioners of Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues; and the Resolutions of the Secretary of State for India respecting the Transfer of the Indian Museum to South Kensington. Among the Papers by Command is the Report of the Royal Commission on the Spontaneous Combustion of Coal in Ships, with Evidence; the Report on Sanitary Measures in India in 1874-75; and the Agricultural Return of Great Britain, showing the acreage under each kind of crop, and number of live stock in each county, on the 25th of June in the years 1875 and 1876.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"Mr. S. St. John, to whom the late Sir James Brooke deputed the work of his autobiography, is now in England, and his book is nearly ready for publication."

MR. PETER A. TAYLOR, the Member for Leicester, has had privately printed a magnificent volume relating to his family history, under the title of 'Some Account of the Taylor Family (originally Taylard), compiled and edited by Peter Alfred Taylor, M.P.' The volume is in quarto size, and enriched with numerous portraits, coats of arms, and fac-similes of letters and other documents.

It is with much regret that we announce the death of Mr. Robert Barclay, of Reigate, a member of the Society of Friends. Mr.

Barclay had been for some years engaged in writing a 'History of Quakerism,' which was almost on the eve of publication. It was intended in it to show the close connexion between Quakerism and the other forms of mysticism and enthusiasm prevalent in the seventeenth century. It is to be hoped that the book may yet see the light. Mr. Barclay, we may mention, was a son-in-law of Mr. Fry, of Bristol.

CHAUER's portrait, in his disciple Occleve's 'De Regimine Principum,' Harleian MS. 4866, in the British Museum, has been enlarged to four times its size by the Autotype Company for Mr. Furnivall's edition, for the Chaucer Society, of 'Chaucer as Valet and Squire: Edward the Second's Household Ordinances, with Extracts from those of Edward the Fourth, to show Chaucer's probable Duties.' No MS. of Edward the Third's or Richard the Second's Household Book is known.

MR. JAMES R. SCOTT, F.S.A., has generously undertaken to publish, at his sole cost, the fine manuscript of Occleve, which has been discovered to contain copies of all documents passed under the Privy Seal during the period that the poet was a clerk in that office. The volume, which is of considerable size, contains very many valuable and hitherto unedited state papers and letters, the originals of which are not known to be in existence now, and which throw fresh and important light upon the domestic and foreign policy of England during the troubled reigns of Richard the Second and the three succeeding Henries.

THE newly-formed London University Institute of Scotland held its first meeting at the Religious Institution Rooms, Glasgow, on Saturday, November 4th. The objects of the Institute are to extend the operations of the London University to Scotland by means of provincial examinations, and to afford guidance to candidates in preparing. The special business before the meeting was to make arrangements for the approaching matriculation examination in January next.

THE Historical Society of Pennsylvania has in the press a new edition of 'Heckewelder's History of the Indian Nations,' and in preparation a new edition of 'Heckewelder's Narrative of the Moravian Mission among the Delaware and Mohegan Indians.' Mr. J. T. Dexter has been elected Corresponding Member of the Society.

THE Brighton Free Library has just received a valuable addition to its collections by the gift, from Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps, of a considerable portion of his miscellaneous library.

A PROSPECTUS has been issued of a new monthly periodical, to be called *The Odd Volume Register and Book Exchange*. The chief feature in it is to be a monthly list of odd volumes, scarce books, &c. It is announced as being "a *sine quâ non* for the trade, the reader, and the collector."

AMONG the new books announced by Mr. Elliot Stock are the following:—Milton's 'Paradise Lost,' a "fac-simile" reproduction of the first edition; a cheaper edition of the 'Pilgrim's Progress,' "fac-simile" first edition. 'The Biblical Museum,' Vol. I., Old Testament section; 'The Poppy Plague; or, Chap-

ters on the Opium Policy of England'; 'Lesser Lights: Sketches of some of the Minor Characters of the New Testament,' by Rev. William Brock; 'Essays on Education,' by Rev. Henry Trigg; 'The Cross and its Dominion,' by William Penn; 'The Handbook of Questioning on the Gospels: The Gospel and our own Times,' by the late Benjamin Frankland, B.A.; and 'Songs for Working Men,' by Benjamin Gough.

IN his annual address to the Cambridge Philological Society, Prof. Cowell, when speaking of Vahlen's edition of Lachmann's 'Kleinere Schriften,' expressed a hope that "a similar attempt may be made to gather up the precious fragments of learning—'chips' from a Cambridge workshop—which that other great scholar, whose recent loss we all mourn, may have left behind." We believe that this hope will probably be realized, and that a volume of *Adversaria* by the late Mr. Shilleto will be published.

MR. MAGANATHA SHASTRI, of Madras, is engaged upon the fifth translation of 'Robinson Crusoe' which has appeared in the Tamil language. Bunyan's 'Pilgrim's Progress' has been translated twice. The 'Book of Common Prayer' twice; the Tamil Bible has been the object of much more attention; certainly there are at least seven versions of it, or parts of it, procurable. But it is remarkable that, above all secular European works, the South Indian native prefers the fictions of De Foe.

FRIEDRICH BODENSTEDT, famed under his Persian disguise of Mirza-Schaffy, has just completed his first dramatic poems, entitled 'Emperor Paul' and 'Transformations.' They are looked forward to with much interest in Germany, where his Persian imitations have met with brilliant success.

WE are glad to hear that the degree of M.A. is to be conferred at Cambridge upon Mr. Magnússon, the Assistant Librarian of the University Library, and the well-known Icelandic scholar, and also upon Dr. Schiller Szinessy, the learned compiler of the Catalogue of Hebrew Manuscripts in the Library.

PROF. WÜLCKER and DR. MORITZ TRAUTMANN announce a new philological journal, to deal exclusively with English, to be entitled *Anglia*, and appear three times a year. The first and principal part of it will be edited by Prof. Wülcker, and will contain papers on English literature, the history and grammar of the language, &c. The second part of *Anglia* will consist of critical reviews of books and essays, and a yearly bibliographical list of all books and papers on the subjects within the range of the journal. The following eminent scholars in Germany have promised their help: Profs. ten Brink, Elze, Grein, Heyne, Kissner, Schipper, Sievers, Stengel, Stimming, Wagner, Zupitza; Directors Hertzberg, Alexander Schmidt, Immanuel Schmidt; Doctors Fel. Flügel, Horstmann, &c.

THE following notes refer to works in critical theology published in Germany:—

A new edition of Herzog's 'Real-Encyclopädie' is on the point of appearing. It is an astonishing fact, and one most honourable to Germany, that of an elaborate work which has no rival in any other country, a new edition should be called for in less than eight years. The original issue consisted of twenty-two volumes, each of which is nearly as large as a volume of Kitto or Smith.

In the new edition the articles will be entirely re-written.—The first part of the second volume of Prof. Levy's Lexicon of Talmud and Midrashim has just appeared. It nearly finishes letter Cheth. As there are still fourteen letters to be done, and as the work is to be completed in three volumes, we hope that the learned author will live to finish this gigantic work, which is the most important contribution made to Talmudic lexicography and archaeology since the appearance of the 'Aruch,' by Nathan B. Jechiel (1030-1106).—The second series of the publications of the Israelitische Literatur-Verein is out. It consists of four volumes: I. Graetz's 'History of the Jews,' which, however, has already appeared apart from the Society; II. Güdemann's 'Religio-Historical Studies': the second and fourth essays of this volume deserve special attention, since the author devotes them to a description from Jewish sources of the origin of Christianity. Volumes III. and IV. are stories, and of not much interest outside the Jewish community.

THE Chaucer Society is reprinting its issue of Texts, &c., for its first year, 1868, its stock being exhausted. Mr. Furnivall will add to his "Temporary Preface to the Six-Text edition of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, Part I., attempting to show the true Order of the Tales, and the Days and Stages of the Pilgrimage, &c.," a few fresh notes and corrections, as in the last eight years a good deal has been done for the study of Chaucer in England.

By Prof. R. Pischel's critical edition of Hemachandra's Prakrit Grammar, the First Part of which has just appeared at Halle, the study of the several dialects of scenic Prakrit is likely to be considerably advanced. The edition is mainly made from manuscripts belonging to the Bodleian and India Office Libraries. The Second Part is in the press, and will contain explanatory notes and references.

LEIPZIG UNIVERSITY has sustained a great loss by the death of, perhaps, the first Latin scholar in Germany, Friedrich Ritschl, in his seventy-first year. Next week, possibly, we may publish a notice of his life and labours.

MR. W. S. R. RALSTON has taken St. George's Hall, Langham Place, for Monday afternoon, and has invited a number of his friends to come and listen to a "Gossip" on the 'Slaves in General and Russians in Particular.' The subject will be treated historically and ethnographically, but not politically. The hour is a quarter to four P.M.

THE memorial stone of the Atkinson Free Library and Art Gallery, at Southport, has just been laid by the Rev. Canon Clarke, in the absence, owing to ill health, of Mr. Atkinson, the founder of the institution, he having contributed 8,000*l.* towards the object.

LAST week we said inadvertently that Signora Villari's maiden name was Mazini; of course we ought to have said that that was her former name. The lady is a daughter of Mr. White, who was long Member for Brighton.

SCIENCE

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

SINCE we published our summary of the results of the Expedition of the Alert and Discovery, Capt. Nares has presented a more complete narrative of his operations to the Admiralty. It contains little which had not been already anticipated in its main features either by his telegraphic despatches from Valentia, or by the narratives which have appeared in the daily journals; yet it

enables us to supplement our *résumé* of the scientific features of the Expedition by a few additional notes.

The Middle Ice.—Capt. Nares took the middle passage through Baffin's Bay, instead of, as is usual with the whalers, crossing the ice-encumbered Melville Bay, but he would not recommend this course to be adopted in every case. The middle ice is dreaded by navigators, and not without good reason.

Port Foulke.—This locality, on the Greenland shore of Smith's Sound, was the winter quarters of Dr. Hayes. He considered it an admirable wintering station, an opinion in which Capt. Nares coincides. "A warm ocean current, combined with the prevailing northerly winds, acting at the narrow entrance of Smith's Sound, keeps the ice constantly breaking away during the winter, causes an early spring, and a prolific seal and walrus fishery. The moisture and warmth imparted to the atmosphere by the uncovered water moderates the seasons to such an extent that the land is more richly vegetated, and therefore attracts to the neighbourhood and supports Arctic life in greater abundance than other less favoured localities. In addition to this great advantage—of obtaining an abundant supply of fresh meat, connected as its waters are with the "north water" off Cape York, it can readily be communicated with every summer without more than the usual risks attending Arctic navigation." Indeed, Capt. Allen Young and the whaler Erik visited these once unfamiliar localities this summer without experiencing any great difficulties. Still, in our opinion, Capt. Nares has not solved the problem of Port Foulke and its neighbourhood being so mild in climate while regions only a little to the north were found to be sterile. That Kane starved at Rensselaer Harbour twenty miles to the northward, while Hall found Thank God Bay, still further north,—nearly two hundred miles further,—mild, and even pleasant, comparatively speaking, can only be accounted for by the variation of the seasons, or by the west coast of Smith's Sound being more inclement than the east. Indeed, the ice is much longer in breaking off from the western shores of Davis Strait and Baffin's Bay than from the eastern or Greenland side.

Bad Charts of Smith's Sound.—Capt. Nares complains that Kane's and Hayes's charts were of little use to him, being most erroneous. "The two islands marked on the chart, on the authority of Dr. Hayes, as existing at the entrance of Hayes Sound, are, as originally represented by the present Admiral Inglefield, in reality, joined; the three capes named by the latter, north of Cape Sabine, are very prominent headlands, and readily sighted from a ship's deck from any position north of Littleton Island. There is no sign of an inlet along the very slightly indented coast line between his Cape Camperdown and Cape Albert. His Princess Marie Bay is the inlet north of the land in the middle of the sound; but whether that be an island or a peninsula, remains to be determined; and his Cape Victoria is evidently one of the headlands on the present Grinnell Land." It is as yet uncertain whether Hayes Sound is a channel or not, though the probabilities are that it is an inlet leading to a western sea. Capt. Nares also animadverts on the bad taste of Drs. Kane and Hayes in altering, on insufficient grounds, the names of points given by Admiral Inglefield—strictures which will, no doubt, bring down on the devoted head of the commander of our Arctic Expedition Dr. Hayes and all the horse, foot, and dragoons of American geography, more especially as, while acknowledging the deceptive character of the Arctic atmosphere, he removes President Land from the chart without having absolutely reached the locality on which that northern country was "located" by Hall's party.

Ice.—This was found to increase in thickness as the Expedition proceeded northwards, and a strong presumption exists that the nearer we approach the Pole the thicker it will be, and the less hope there is of ever finding navigable water. There are, however, grounds for belief, after carefully studying Capt. Nares's Report, that possibly,

under very favourable circumstances, the ice may break up so far as to allow a ship to proceed a little further north. There is, nevertheless, no ground for supposing that this would alter the conclusion to which he has come about the frozen Polar Sea.

Meteorology.—Until the meteorological observations are properly analyzed, nothing but general conclusions can be drawn from them. There is evidence of strong winds prevailing in Robeson Channel. The weather at the winter quarters of the Alert was, however, very calm; "indeed, we may say to have wintered on the borders of a Pacific sea." The prevailing wind was from the westward; "we never experienced any easterly winds; it always blew off the land. Had it not been for the intervening calms, the persistent westerly winds might have been well called a trade wind." This quiet state of the atmosphere was, however, productive of great cold. Early in March, during a continuance of cold weather, the Alert registered a minimum of 73°·7 below zero, the Discovery, at the same time, 70°·5. In 1850, the North Star, in Wolstenholme Sound, in lat. 76° 30', recorded 69°·5 below zero. The Alert's minimum temperature for twenty-four hours was 70°·31 below zero, the Discovery's 67°. Dr. Kane's, in lat. 78° 37', in 1854, reached 58°·01 below zero. In lat. 76° 52' N., Belcher records a mean temperature during the winter of 1853 for ten consecutive days of 48°·9 below zero. The Alert experienced a mean temperature for thirteen days of 58°·9, and for five days and nine hours of 66°·29. We have no record of the mean winter temperatures or the maximum heat experienced, so that as yet we do not really know the climate of the Alert's or Discovery's winter quarters. With the prevalence of a south-west wind, warm weather, as is the rule on the whole Greenland coast, came, but immediately the wind fell cold returned. After the autumn snow, little fell, and (strange to say) much trouble was experienced in getting enough to bank up the ship, it having to be dragged on the sledges from a distance.

The Northern End of Greenland.—In the 'Arctic Paper of the Royal Geographical Society' it was speculated whether it might not be possible for Capt. Nares to work his way through the ice, if sufficiently broken, round the Northern end of Greenland. It is curious to find that there was not only a possibility of doing this, but a great risk. "A vessel once caught in the pack ice off that coast, if not crushed at once, runs a great risk of being carried by it to the eastward, round the northern coast."

Navigation of Smith's Sound.—Capt. Nares considers that the success of the Polar is getting so far north with so little trouble was owing to "her leaving the entrance of Smith's Sound at an opportune moment late in the season; had she left at any other time, she would have experienced the same trouble in going north in 1871, as in returning south the following year. To the latitude of Polar is or Discovery Bay, if no accident happens to the ship, the passage may be probably made, with perseverance, most years by starting early in the season, but it will be at all times a most dangerous one."

Esquimo.—It is stated, "with confidence," that after a careful examination of the coast north of Cape Union, it is the belief of Capt. Nares that no natives ever had a permanent settlement on that shore.

Drift-wood.—The pieces found were all fir or pine. There were also seen on the northern coast raised beaches, which Capt. Nares considers conclusive of the coast rising. However, these beaches are also found in Danish Greenland, in which the coast is as certainly falling. In fact, it only proves a former rise of the coast, which may be again falling, nevertheless.

Game.—The Alert's game-bag was poor. However, the Discovery crew were more fortunate, killing, as they did, a large number of musk oxen and other animals.

In conclusion, Capt. Nares pays a high tribute to all his officers and men, and especially to Capt.

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Feilden, R.A., whose services were of much value. We shall, therefore, look for the detailed Report of the gallant and learned naturalist of the Alert with no little interest, confident that so diligent and competent an officer will give an excellent account of himself. Altogether, Capt. Nares's Report bears out the opinion we had already come to from a perusal of his earlier summary, viz., that the Arctic Expedition could not have been better commanded or officered, and that the explorers did all that in reason they could have been expected to do.

We have only now to await Capt. Stephenson's formal Report, to complete the outline records of the memorable voyage of the Alert and Discovery.

Already criticisms on the results of the Expedition, both from home and abroad, are coming in in numbers. The critics, as might be expected, take very different views, and we may revert to them. Mean time, it is to be hoped that those comments which proceed from America will be couched in more courteous language, and in a more generous spirit, than is a letter of Dr. Hayes in the *New York Herald* of October 28th. We need not quote it, nor characterize it at greater length than by simply saying that this distinguished explorer denies in toto not only the conclusions but even the data of Capt. Nares. He still adheres to "the open Polar sea," and in regard to the ice being eighty feet in thickness, declares that "he does not believe one word of it!" Herr Julius Payer, we are glad to say, has, in a private letter, expressed himself warmly on the subject of the Expedition. He says that Capt. Nares has done all that was practicable, and adds, "If Englishmen should take it amiss that he did not stop another winter, they would wrong him." M. V. A. Malte Brun intends, it is understood, to defend before the Paris Geographical Society the course adopted by Capt. Nares.

Dr. Petermann, in the map he is going to publish in the *Mittheilungen*, adheres as far as he possibly can to his favourite theory. He carries Greenland on from Beaumont's furthest point towards the Pole. In a letter to Mr. Van Campen, to whose courtesy we owe a sight of the map, he says that the heroic labours of the Expedition are beyond all praise; that henceforward no one will again advocate Smith's Sound, and that it has been shown how much an able navigator can do in a well-found ship, and how little can be done by sledging.

THE FALL OF METEORITES IN BERKSHIRE IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

British Museum, November, 1876.

ON two occasions during the first half of the seventeenth century meteorites are reported to have fallen in the British Islands, in each case in the south of England; and the dates of their descent are the earliest which have come down to us recording the fall of cosmical matter on this area. The first fall is stated to have taken place in Devonshire on the 10th of January, 1622; the other, which forms the subject of this notice, happened in Berkshire on the 9th of April, 1628.

Chladni in his classical work, 'Ueber Feuer-Meteorite,'* mentions the occurrence, drawing his information from the *Gentleman's Magazine*, of 1796,† where, more than a century and a half after the event, "Sylvanus Urban" gives, in a letter from a correspondent, an excerpt from an earlier printed description of the fall. The occurrence is also mentioned in a "List of British Meteoric Stones, with date of fall," in Greg and Lettson's 'Manual of Mineralogy,'‡ as "9th of August, 1628, at Hatfield, in Berkshire," where both date and locality are incorrectly given.

I have recently inspected the early printed account, referred to by the correspondent of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, a very rare tract, a copy of which is preserved in the British Museum. It is a quarto pamphlet of nineteen pages, intitled 'Looke Vp and See Wonders: a miraculous Apparition

in the Ayre, lately seene in Barke-shire, at Bawlin Greene, neere Hatford, April 9th, 1628.' (Imprinted at London, for Roger Michell, 1628.) The author regards the occurrence he is about to describe as a portent of evil, and warns his readers of its meaning at the outset. He says, "So Benumbed wee are in our Sences, that albeit God himselfe Holla in our Eares, wee by our wills are loath to heare him. His dreadful Pursuants of Thunder and Lightning terrifie vs so long as they haue vs in their fingers, but beeing off, wee dance and sing in the midst of our Follies." Then proceeding to his task, he tells how "the four great quarter-masters of the World (the four Elements) . . . haue bin in ciuill Warres one against another. . . . As for Fire, it hath denied of late to warme vs, but at vnreasonable rates, and extreame hard conditions. But what talke I of this earthy nourishment of fire? How haue the Fires of Heauen (some few yeares past) gone beyond their bounds, and appeared in the shapes of Comets and Blazing Starres? . . . The Aire is the shop of Thunder and Lightning. In that, hath of late bin held a Muster of terrible enemies § and threatners of Vengeance, which the great Generall of the Field, who Conducts and Commands all such Armies (God Almighty, I meane) auert from our Kingdom, and shoote the arrowes of his indignation some other way, vpon the bosomes of those that would confound his Gospell."

"Many windowes hath he set open in Heauen, to shewe what Artillery hee has lying there, and many of our Kings haue trembled, when they were shewne vnto them. What blazing Starres (euen at Noone-dayes) in those times hung houer- ing in the Aire? How many frightfull Eclipses both of Sun and Moone? It is not for man to dispute with God, why he has done this so often . . . but, with feare and trembling casting our eyes vp to Heauen, let vs now behold him, bending his Fist onely, as lately hee did to the terror and affrightment of all the Inhabitants dwelling within a Towne in the County of Barke-shire." . . . "The name of the Towne is Hatford, some eight miles from Oxford. Ouer this Towne, vpon Wednesday being the ninth of this instant Moneth of April, 1628, about fife of the clocke in the afternoone this miraculous, prodigious, and fearefull handy-works of God was presented." "The weather was warme, and without any great shewe of distemperature, only the skye waxed by degrees a little gloomy, yet not so darkned but that the Sunne still and anon, by the power of the brightnesse, brake through the thicke clouds."

"A gentle gale of wind then blowing from between the West and North-west, in an instant was heard, first a hideous rumbling in the Ayre, and presently after followed a strange and fearefull peale of Thunder, running vp and downe these parts of the Countrey, but it strake with the loudest violence, and more furious tearing of the Ayre, about a place called The White Horse Hill, than in any other. The whole order of this thunder carried a kind of Maiestical state with it, for it maintayned (to the offrighted Beholders seeming) the fashion of a fought Battaile.

"It beganne thus: First, for an onset, went off one great Cannon as it were of thunder alone, like a warning peece to the rest that were to follow. Then a little while after was heard a second; and so by degrees a third, vntill the number of 20 were discharged (or thereabouts) in very good order, though in very great terror.

"In some little distance of time after this was audibly heard the sound of a Drum beating a Retreat. Amongst all these angry peales shot off from Heauen, this begat a wonderful admiration, that at the end of the report of euery cracke, or Cannon-thundering, a hissing Noyse made way through the Ayre, not vnlike the flying of Bullets

§ The quaint vignette of this pamphlet gives such a graphic and awe-inspiring representation of "heaven's artillery" as would strike terror even into Petruchio's heart. The heavens are depicted laid out as a scroll; and, with hurricanes blowing, drums beating, and demi-culverins and sakers discharging meteorites, we witness the airy armies "grappling in the central blue."

from the mouthes of great Ordnance; and by the iudgement of all the terror-stricken witnesses they were Thunder-bolts. For one of them was seene by many people to fall at a place called Bawlin Greene, beeing a mile and a half from Hatford: Which Thunder-bolt was by one Mistris Greene caused to be digged out of the ground, she being an eye-witnesse, amongst many other, of the manner of the falling.

"The forme of the Stone is three-square, and picked in the end: In colour outwardly blackish, some-what like Iron: Crusted ouer with that blacknesse about the thickness of a shilling. Within it is soft, of a gray colour, mixed with some kind of mineral, shining like small peeces of glasse."||

"This Stone brake in the fall: The whole peece is in weight nineteene pound and a halfe: The greater peece that fell off weigheth fife pound, which with other small peeces being put together, make foure and twenty pound and better." . . .

"It is in the Countrey credibly reported that some other Thunder-stones¶ haue bin found in other places: But for certainty there was one taken vp at Letcombe, and is now in the custody of the Shrieffe."

So far his description of the fall. The worthy chronicler, however, is sorely exercised in mind to think there are those who hold that these disturbances can arise "more often from Naturall causes than Supernaturall." It is a text not to be commented upon. "Let vs not be so daring as to pry into the closet of God's determinations. His Workes are full of Wonders, and not to be examined. Let vs not be so foolish as turne Almanack-makers, and to Prognosticate, Prophesie, Fore-dooome, or Fore-tell what shall happen, faire weather or foule, to our own Kingdome or any other; scarcity, or plenty; Warre, or Peace: for such giddy-brayn'd Medlers shoote their arrowes beyond the Moone."

It has recently been my good fortune to hit upon what appears to be a unique copy of an edition of this curious pamphlet, of later date than those preserved in the British Museum and Bodleian Libraries. The title is wanting; it contains, however, an additional page, in the form of a post-script, recording the following observations on the fall of another meteorite at the same time and place:—"Behold, at the same time, when the Cannon-Thundering was heard in the Ayre, and that stones were visibly seene to fall, and afterwards found in seuerall places, The fall of one Thunder-bolt was more remarkable than all the rest. For there being on Bawlin Greene a Pond, into that Pond a Thunder-stone fell with swift and terrible violence, and no sooner was it hurried with fearefull noyse to the bottome of the Pond, but the water was presently turned into the colour of blood, bubbling (and seething as it were) for a while as a pot ouer the fire.** Which a Gentleman dwelling not farre from thence perceiuing, filled a Vycell with some of the bloody water, and pouring a little of it into his hand, it carried the smell of Gun-powder."

When we consider the superstitions which clung about such occurrences, it is not a little curious that there should be so little of what may appear to be drawn from the imagination interwoven in this interesting story. As regards the description of the appearance and physical characters of these meteorites, meagre though it be, it is given almost in the words which would be used in the present day. The blackened surface, the crust about the thickness of a shilling, the grey colour and softer texture of the interior, the inclosed brilliant particles of nickel-iron, describe with equal accuracy the characteristic features of the stones which fell in such numbers in the State of Iowa on the 12th

|| Of the Stones which fell at Siena, Italy, on the 10th of June, 1794, one is thus described:—"Von Aussen war er schwarz, wie eine Kohle, inwendig aschgrau, und mit Stücken von Metall vermischt." (Von Ende, 'Massen und Steine,' &c., p. 50.)

* This is the earliest occasion where I have met with this term, which is used in the beautiful song of Guiderius and Arviragus ('Cymbeline,' Act iv. sc. 2).

** Here, again, it is interesting to compare the description given of the fall of one of the Siena meteorites above alluded to:—"Einer (Stein) von beträchtlicher Grösse brachte das Wasser in einem Teiche, worin er hineinfiel, ueber sich zum Sieden." (Von Ende, 'Massen und Steine,' &c., p. 53.)

* E. F. F. Chladni, 'Ueber Feuer-Meteorite.' Vienna, 1819, page 233.

† The *Gentleman's Magazine*, December, 1796, page 1609.

‡ 'Manual of the Mineralogy of Great Britain and Ireland,' by R. P. Greg and W. G. Lottson. London, 1858. Page 246.

of February, 1875 (see Reports of Luminous Meteors' Committee, British Association, 1875 and 1876).

Evidence confirming the leading circumstances of this aërolitic fall has recently been published in Wallington's 'Historical Notices,'* and attention has already been directed to it by Mr. Webb.† Nehemiah Wallington, a Puritan, who lived in Eastcheap during the early part of the seventeenth century, kept a record of strange occurrences—signs, portents, judgments, &c.—of his time, which has now been printed. His holograph journal, and a second and less perfect version, also in his handwriting, are preserved in the Department of Manuscripts of the British Museum (Bibliotheca Sloaneiana).

Under the date 1628, he wrote:—"Of Strainge Sightes in the Aire—A Coppie of a letter sent by Mr. Iohn Haskins, dwelling at Wantag in Barkshire, to his sonne-in-law, Mr. Dawson, a Gunsmith dwelling in the Minories without Algate:—MR. DAWSONE—The cause of my writen to you at this time is by reason of an accident that the Lord sent among vs. I have hard of the Lord by the hering of the care, as the profit speaketh, but now mine eyes hath sene him: you will maruill that I wright thus for no man hath sene God at any time, yet in his works we see him daily. But now after a more speciall manner. But to come to the matter it was this: on Wednesday before Easter, being the ninth of Aprill, about sixe of the clocke in the afternoon there was such a noyse in the aire, and after such a strang manner as the ouldest man alive never hard the like, And it begane as folloeth First as it ware one pece of ordinance went of alone. Then after that a litell distance tow more, and then they went as thike as ever I hard a valie of shote in all my Life, and after that as if it were the sound of a drome, to the Amasment of mee, your Mother and a hundred more besides yet this was not all, but as it is reported There fell diuers stones, but tow is sartaine in our knowledge. The one fell at Chalows, half a mile of, and the other at Bakine, 1/2 mile of. Your mother was at the place where one of them fell knee deepe till it came to the very rocke, and when it came at the hard rocke it brake, and being wayed all the peaces together, they wayed six and twenty pound; the other that was taken up in the other place wayed half a tod 14 pound. Now let the Athise [Atheist] (Consider this, that all things come by nature) stand amased at this worke of the Lord."

The fall, then, appears to have taken place between five and six P.M. All the places mentioned in these two narratives lie a little to the west of Wantage (lat. 51° 35' N.; long. 1° 25' W.), and south of Hatford, and on either side of the track of the Great Western Railway. As regards both the weight of the largest stone, which fell at Baulking, and the character of the detonations, the two statements show a most satisfactory accordance. Of the villages of East Challow and West Challow, given in the Ordnance Map, it is probable that at the former, and the nearer to Wantage, the fourth mass fell. Letcombe Regis and Letcombe Bassett, one or other of which must be the "Letcombe" of the pamphleteer, lie a little farther to the south.

The meteorites appear to have moved in a direction, more or less, from south to north; and the disruption of the meteor may have taken place over White Horse Hill, which lies south of Baulking, whence, in fact, the sound of the explosion came. This view gains support from the fact of the larger mass having been carried farther on, in this case northwards,—a common occurrence where a number of meteoric masses of various sizes have fallen together.

It is just possible, as Mr. Webb has suggested, that fragments of these meteorites may still be

preserved in the neighbourhood of their fall. Is the hope altogether vain that they may be secured for investigation? Perhaps the publication of this notice may tend to their recovery.

I wish on this occasion to tender my thanks to the Rev. G. Purdue, of Challow Vicarage, who has examined the registers of East and West Challow, and finds in them no record of the fall of meteorites; also to the Rev. C. H. Tomlinson, who, on searching them, has met with no reference to the occurrence in the registers at Wantage. The parish records of Letcombe Regis do not date further back than 1697. By an obliging letter from the Rev. W. E. Ramsay, of the Vicarage at Baulking, I learn that the church registers of that parish commence with the year 1654. He states, moreover, that there is still a tradition in the district of the fall of these meteorites, and old people tell of it as such an event as to have created a belief at the time that the world was coming to an end.

WALTER FLIGHT.

SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Nov. 13.—Sir R. Alcock, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Messrs. P. G. Lawrie and L. Rosenthal.—The President gave his Opening Address.—The paper read was 'On the Buried Cities of the Gobi Desert, Eastern Turkistan,' by Sir T. D. Forsyth.

ASTRONOMICAL.—Nov. 10.—Mr. Huggins, President, in the chair.—The Astronomer-Royal gave a short account of the proceedings of the Royal Observatory during the recess, describing the lunar and physical observations, which had been assiduously prosecuted, and the state of the calculations for his new lunar theory.—A paper, by Prof. Langley, of the Allegheny Observatory, Pennsylvania, 'On the Measurements of the Direct Effects of Sun-spots on Terrestrial Climates,' was read. Prof. Langley has made experiments to determine the difference in the amount of heat radiated from the centre of a sun-spot, and from an equal area of penumbra, and photosphere, combining these results with the amount of the sun-spot area given as existing during a period of maximum of sun-spot frequency in the tables of Messrs. De La Rue, Stewart, and Loewy. He calculated that the mean terrestrial temperature due to solar radiation at a period of sun-spot minimum would be something between three-tenths and one-twentieth of 1° Centigrade greater than at a period of sun-spot maximum.—The Astronomer-Royal pointed out that the observations of underground temperature made at the Observatories at Paris, Edinburgh, and Greenwich, showed differences in the mean annual temperature of the surface soil which amounted to as much as 6° Fahrenheit. An examination of the temperatures at different depths showed that the differences of surface temperature had their cause in something external to the earth; but he had not found that the differences of mean surface temperature coincided with the variations in the amount of the English serial crop, as given by the Board of Trade returns, or with the periods of sun-spots maxima.—Mr. De La Rue said that it did not follow that the amount of solar radiation would necessarily vary inversely as the sun-spot area, for at a period of maximum sun-spot area it was possible that the radiation from the photosphere might be increased to such an extent as wholly to counteract the difference caused by the decrease in the apparent area of the photosphere. He further remarked that the numbers given in his papers, in conjunction with Messrs. Balfour Stewart and Loewy, must not now be relied upon, as some serious errors had been discovered, which he was endeavouring to put straight by a re-investigation of the whole subject.—Mr. Penrose read a paper, entitled 'An Endeavour to Simplify the Method of making the Correction for the Spheroidal Figure of the Earth in Lunar Observations, and particularly with reference to its effect upon the Lunar Distance'; and the

history of the subject was commented upon by Mr. Marth.—Mr. Christie described some observations which he had made with a polarizing photometer upon the relative brightness of different parts of the disc of Venus. He had found that when the disc of Venus was gibbous, the last part of the disc to disappear, as its brightness was decreased by rotating his photometer, was a sausage-shaped patch, the convex edge of which was found to be distinctly within the limb of the planet. He thought that his observations supported Mr. Brett's theory as to specula reflection from the surface of Venus.—Mr. Ranyard said he had been unable to find evidence of polarization in the light of Venus, such as might be expected if light was specularly reflected from the body of the planet. He thought that the brighter sausage-shaped area seemed to indicate a dense atmosphere, which absorbed the light from the limb of the planet. With specula reflection the brighter patch would, he thought, certainly be circular and not sausage-shaped.

GEOLOGICAL.—Nov. 8.—Prof. P. M. Duncan, President, in the chair.—Messrs. M. Attwood and R. W. Moore were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read: 'A Short Notice of a New Exposure of Rhetics near Nottingham, in a letter from Mr. E. Wilson, dated November 3, 1876,'—'Note on the Red Crag,' by Mr. W. Whitaker,—'On the Kessingland Cliff Section, and the Relation of the Forest-Bed to the Chillesford Clay, with some Remarks on the so-called Terrestrial Surface at the Base of the Norwich Crag,' by Mr. F. W. Harmer,—and 'Observations on the Geology of East Anglia, &c.,' by Messrs. S. V. Wood, jun., and F. W. Harmer.

LINNEAN.—Nov. 2.—Prof. Allman, President, in the chair.—Mr. Duppa Crotch exhibited a live specimen of the Lemming, from Norway, and explained, by charts, the particulars of two migrations of this guinea-pig-like creature witnessed by himself.—A paper was read, by Mr. G. Benthall, V.P., 'On the Classification and Terminology of the Monocotyledons.' In working out the Flora of Australia he has found it needful and convenient to attempt a rearrangement of the vegetable division in question. Rejecting Lindley and Brogniart's characters and grouping, he rather adopts, but with considerable modifications, E. Fries's four primary divisions, chiefly based upon the structure of the perianth. These—I. Epigynæ, II. Coronariæ, III. Nudifloræ, IV. Glumales—are again subdivided by Mr. Benthall into orders founded on a variety of subsidiary characters. The Alismaceæ (Water Plantains) he makes an order of under the Nudifloræ. It is a very anomalous group combining something, as it were, of I., II., III., as above numbered, though he deems it more strictly links the Naiades with the Hydrocharideæ. From the Irideæ (Irises) to Cyperaceæ (Sedges) are a series of orders whose boundary lines are faint and cross relationships numerous. Palms, notwithstanding their woody stem and shape of leaf, have flower and fruit resembling somewhat that of rushes. The nature and homology of Glumes, as significantly bearing on terms in use, Mr. Benthall revises and enunciates:—1. Homologous organs should be designated by the same name; 2. Non-homologous organs ought to be called by different names.—Dr. Francis Day, in a communication 'On some Irish Sticklebacks (Gasterosteii),' has found such abnormal variations in the presence and absence of ventral fins and spines in the Three-spined and Ten-spined Sticklebacks, that he regards these appendages as an imperfect diagnostic character. M. Sauvage's divisions thereby of the family into sub-genera and seventeen species he opposes. The spinal armature of the Gasterosteii he considers has an increment in ratio according to proximity and access to a maritime habitat.—Mr. D. Sharp, 'On the Respiratory Function of Carnivorous Water Beetles,' from experiments, shows that great inequality of submersion and surface aeration exist among the species. *Pelobius Hermanni*, for

* 'Historical Notices of Events occurring chiefly in the Reign Charles the First.' By Nehemiah Wallington, 1869. London, Bentley. 2 vols. Vol. I. p. 46.

† T. W. Webb, *Nature*, July 14, 1870.

‡ In Wallington's second manuscript he writes it "Barkin," and Mr. Webb makes it "Barking." The Trigonometrical Survey adopt the spelling, "Baulking."

instance, remains under water in a ratio of 375 to 1 of air exposure; whereas *Dytiscus marginalis* has the ratio of 12 to 1. The water beetles are more active by night than day.—A second paper, by the same author, 'New Species of Beetles (Scarabæidæ) from Central America,' collected by Mr. Belt, was taken as read.—Mr. A. G. Butler made some remarks and exhibited a series of butterflies illustrating a communication by him 'On the Genus Euphychia,' with a tabular view of all the known species.—Description of Two New Lepidopterous Insects from Malacca' was also announced from Mr. Butler.—A supplemental notice of Algae obtained by the Challenger expedition, by Prof. Dickie, was briefly mentioned.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Nov. 7.—Prof. Newton, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a Report on the additions to the menagerie made during June, July, August, and September.—Letters and communications were read: from Dr. O. Finsch, 'On the supposed Existence of the Wild Camel (*Camelus bactrianus*) in Central Asia,'—from Mr. E. P. Ramsay, 'On the Habits of some Ceratodi living in the Australian Museum, Sydney, and lately received from Queensland,'—by Mr. W. K. Parker, 'On the Structure and Development of the Skull in the Sharks and Rays,'—by Lieut.-Col. Beddome, 'On a New Species of Indian Snake from Mantawaddy, in the Wynad Hills, which he proposed to name *Platyplecturus Hewsoni*,'—by Dr. G. E. Dobson, 'On the Bats of the Group Moloss,'—by Dr. A. Günther, 'On some of the recent Additions to the Collection of Mammalia in the British Museum,' amongst the more remarkable of which was a new form of Porcupine, from Borneo, proposed to be called *Trichys lipura*; and a new Marmoset, obtained by Mr. T. K. Salmon, near Medellin, U.S. of Columbia, to which the name *Hapale leucopus* was given.—Prof. A. Newton made a correction of some of the statements in Canon Tristram's 'Note on the Discovery of the Roebuck in Palestine' (P.Z.S., 1876, p. 421).

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Nov. 1.—Prof. Westwood, President, in the chair.—Mr. F. Smith exhibited some remarkable specimens of thorns from Natal and Brazil, which had been taken possession of by species of Cryptoceridæ for the construction of their nests. Some of the thorns were as much as three inches in length.—Prof. Westwood mentioned an instance of the hairs of a larva of *Lasiocampa rubi* having caused considerable irritation of the skin, and that the irritation was complained of by his correspondent for a week afterwards.—The Professor exhibited a singular Coleopterous larva from Zanzibar, of a flattened, ovate form, and a steel-blue colour, with two points at the extremity of the body, and with long, clavate antennæ. The head bore some resemblance to that of the Dipterous genus *Diopsis*. He also exhibited a specimen of the butterfly *Hesperia sylvanus*, received from the Rev. Mr. Higgins, of Liverpool, having the pollinaria, apparently of an Orchid, attached to the base of the tongue. Also an Orchid bulb purchased by Mr. Hewitson with a collection of roots from Ecuador, which was found to contain nine living specimens of Cockroaches, comprising six different species, viz. *Blatta orientalis*, *Americana*, *cinerea*, *Madera*, and two others unknown to him, some being of considerable size.—Mr. Dunning read a 'Note on Acentropus,' in which he remarked on Heer Ritsma's Second Supplement to his Historical Review of the Genus, published in the *Transactions of the Entomological Society of the Netherlands*, in which that author tried to prove that two distinct species existed, of which one (*A. niveus*, Oliv. = *A. Garnonsii*, Curt.) has a female with rudimentary wings, and the other (*A. latipennis*, Möschl. = *Zancle Hansoni*, Ste.) has a female with normally developed wings; whereas Mr. Dunning argued that the facts, as stated by Heer Ritsma, did not in any way prove the duality, but were quite consistent with the unity, of the species.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Nov. 14.—Mr. G. R. Stephenson, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Japan Lights,' by Mr. R. H. Brunton.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Nov. 15.—Lord A. S. Churchill in the chair.—Ninety-six new members were proposed for election.—The Chairman of the Council, Lord A. S. Churchill, delivered the usual Address at the opening of the Session. The principal topics dwelt on were Town Drainage and Patent Law Reform. Other subjects with which the Society is engaged were also referred to.

HISTORICAL.—Nov. 9.—Annual Meeting.—A Genealogical Section was constituted, in connexion with which will be forthwith issued genealogical memoirs of Sir Walter Scott, including a reprint of his rare tract, 'The Memorials of the Haliburtons.'—Dr. B. W. Richardson, who was elected President of the Council, delivered an address 'On the Phenomena of Historical Repetition.'

MATHEMATICAL.—Nov. 9.—Prof. H. J. S. Smith, President, in the chair.—After the reading of the Treasurer's and Secretaries' Reports, the Meeting proceeded to the election of the new Council.—The following are the names of the gentlemen elected: President, Lord Rayleigh; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. C. W. Merrifield, H. J. S. Smith, and W. Spottiswoode; Treasurer, Mr. S. Roberts; Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. Jenkins and Tucker; Other Members of the Council, Profs. Cayley, Clifford, Drs. Henricci and Hirst, Messrs. T. Cotterill, J. W. L. Glaisher, R. Harley, A. B. Kempe, and J. J. Walker. Lord Rayleigh on taking the chair briefly acknowledged the honour done him, and called upon Prof. Smith to deliver his valedictory address: the subject was 'The Present State and Prospects of Pure Mathematics.'—Mr. Glaisher communicated a 'Note on Certain Identical Differential Relations.'—The Secretary read parts of papers by Mr. Spottiswoode, 'On Curves having Four-Point Contact with a Triply Infinite Pencil of Curves'; and by Mr. E. B. Elliott, 'On some Classes of Multiple Definite Integrals.'—Prof. Greenhill was admitted into the Society.

NEW SHAKSPEARE.—Nov. 10.—F. D. Matthew, Esq., in the chair.—The following were announced as new Members: Prof. Johnson, Rev. H. O. Cox, Messrs. F. J. Evans, H. Walters, and S. Andrewes.—After a statement of some length as to the work now in the press, and preparing for the Society, Mr. Farnivall read a paper on 'The Character of Hamlet not entitled to the admiration often bestowed upon it.' He asked what basis in Shakspeare's text there was for the notion of Hamlet's perfection as brought forward by some modern critics, specially Dr. G. Macdonald here, and Dr. Werder, in Germany; and he tried to show that there was none.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Society of Engineers, 7½.—Adjourned Discussion on Mr. C. E. Hall's paper, 'The Conversion of Peat into Fuel and Charcoal.'
- TUES. Royal Academy, 8.—'Chemistry,' Mr. F. S. Baill. Institute of British Architects, 8.—'History of the Art of Coach Building,' Society of Arts, 8.—'History of the Art of Coach Building,' Lecture I., Mr. G. A. Thrupp (Cantor Lecture).
- WED. Statistical, 7½.—President's Opening Address; 'Report on the Ninth International Statistical Congress at Budapest,' Dr. Moiss.
- THURS. Civil Engineers, 8.—'Fracture of Railway Tires,' Mr. W. W. Beaumont.
- FRI. Zoological, 8½.—'Six New Species of Shells, from the Collections of the Marchioness Palucci and Dr. Provost,' Mr. G. B. Sowerby, jun.; 'Two New Species of Hesperomyia,' Mr. E. N. Alston; 'Chinese Deer, named *Lophoceros sichuanensis*, by Mr. W. H. H. Prof. Garrod; 'New Species and a New Genus of Lepidoptera, from New Guinea,' Mr. A. G. Butler.
- SAT. Literature, 8.—'Two Saxon Manuscripts in the British Museum,' Mr. de Gray Birch.
- Geological, 8.—'Pre-Cambrian (or Dimetian) Rocks of St. David,' Mr. H. Hicks; 'Fossil Vertebrata of Spain,' Prof. S. Cordero; 'Phaenodonta Strubani, a Fossil Holothuridæ, from the Cambridge Coprolite Bed,' Mr. W. J. Sollas; 'New Species of Eurypterus from the Carboniferous of Scotland,' Mr. R. Etheridge, jun.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'Collapsible Boats: their Peculiarities and Advantages,' Rev. E. L. Berthon.
- THURS. Royal, 8½.
- FRI. Quaker Microscopical, 8.
- SAT. Botanic, 8½.—General Monthly.

Science Gossip.

MR. HIND has called the attention of M. Le Verrier to an observation of a round and black

spot observed on the sun's disc, by M. Stark, on the 9th of October, 1819, a time which is consistent with his formula, making it probable that observations of objects so seen in 1802, 1839, 1849, 1859, and 1862, were, in fact, observations of an intra-mercurial planet seen whilst passing across the sun (as mentioned in the *Athenæum* of October 14th). Accepting, then, the observation in 1819, such a planet would appear to have been seen in that position at six different times, which, of course, increases the probability that it was so in reality. According to M. Le Verrier's calculations, it is unlikely that the hypothetical planet will pass over the sun's disc again for a considerable time, though it is just possible it may do so on the 22nd of March, next year. As, however, modern optical means may enable it to be seen even off the disc, he recommends that a vigorous search be made for that purpose with the best instrumental appliances possible.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL Exploration Committees have been actively engaged during the present recess. Mr. Park Harrison, at Ciasbury, and Mr. Hilton Price, at Seaford, will both, we believe, have a good account to render of their proceedings.

THE *Annales Industrielles*, for October 22nd, states that the prize offered by the Société d'Agriculture de France, for the best method of removing the bark of trees, at other times than that of the flow of the sap, has been awarded to M. Nomaïson, who has successfully adopted the method of treating the wood with superheated steam.

DR. JAMES CROLL, in a paper in the *Philosophical Magazine*, for October, 'On the Transformation of Gravity,' in which he attempts to answer the question, is gravity convertible into other forms of energy? concludes with the following remarkable paragraph:—"If gravitation were an impact, no planet nor comet could move everlastingly in an elliptic orbit. But the mutual disturbing forces of the planets will always maintain them in elliptic orbits, and it would, therefore, follow that gravity alone, without any resisting medium, would ultimately bring the planets to the sun."

PROF. BOGDANOW, of the University of Moscow, and the leading spirit of the Anthropological Section there, has prepared for the Section a preliminary notice on the craniological collection belonging to it, and which particularly embraces the skulls from the tumuli in Russia of archaeological interest. This memoir will be published with the second volume of the *Proceedings of the Anthropological Section*, and with a treatise on the Ainos.

A GEOLOGICAL chart of the United States east of the Rocky Mountains, and of Canada, has recently been published. In the *American Journal of Science* for October, Mr. Frank H. Bradley, the geological director of this survey, "has felt under obligation to state the reasons for the adoption" of some of the peculiar features of this chart.

THE celebrated glass manufacturer, M. Feil, has forwarded the glass for the crown lens of the Vienna telescope to Dublin. It weighs 112 lbs. Mr. Grubb has been for some time at work on the flint-glass lens. A remarkable series of specimens of optical glass and artificial gems is exhibited by M. Feil, at the Loan Exhibition at South Kensington.

THE Peabody Academy of Science has published a posthumous work of the late Prof. Jeffries Wyman, 'On the Freshwater Shell Mounds of the St. John's River, Florida.' He assigns to them a minimum age of several hundred years, justifying the conclusion that some of them were essentially finished two or three centuries before the arrival of the white man. Whether the builders of the mounds were the same people as those found there by the Spaniards and French is uncertain. The absence of pipes in all, and of pottery in some of the mounds, and the extreme rarity of ornaments, with the absence of any indication of the practice of agriculture, are consistent with the conclusion that they were a different people.

FINE ARTS

The SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—The FIFTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES will OPEN on MONDAY, December 4-5, Pall Mall East. Admission, 2s. ALFRED D. FRIFE, Secretary.

EXHIBITION OF CABINET PICTURES IN OIL, Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—The TENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is OPEN DAILY, from ten till five.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. R. F. M'RAIL, Secretary.

The TWELFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS, by Artists of the British and Foreign Schools, is NOW OPEN, at Thomas M'Lean's Gallery, 7, Haymarket, next the Theatre.—Admission, including Catalogue, 1s.

IS NOW OPEN, at C. DE CHAMPEL GALLERY, 168, New Bond Street, an EXHIBITION OF OIL PAINTINGS BY BRITISH ARTISTS.—Admission, 1s.

DORÉ'S TWO GREAT WORKS, 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM,' and 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM' (the latter just completed), each 31 by 24 feet, with 'Dream of Pilate's Wife,' 'Christian Martyr,' 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'House of Caiaphas,' &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 25, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1s.

WATER-COLOUR SKETCHES AND DRAWINGS.—The FINE ARTS SOCIETY'S AUTUMN EXHIBITION, NOW OPEN, at 125, New Bond Street, contains contributions from nearly One Hundred and Fifty Artists. All the Works have been executed this year, and have not been previously exhibited.—There is also ON VIEW a most interesting COLLECTION of SKETCHES recently taken at CONSTANTINOPLE by Mr. Henry A. Harper.—Admission, 1s., including Catalogue.

GIFT BOOKS.

Laughable Lyrics: a Fourth Book of Nonsense Poems, Songs, Botany, Music, &c. By Edward Lear. (Bush).—Mr. Lear's success and the delight of the public have been commensurate with the merit and the novelty of his books. He has received a full tribute of that homage which is said to be paid by imitators, but their efforts have been about as futile as they well could be, for no one has attained the trick of making "nonsense" with half the success which has attended the inventor. The 'Ballads of Bon Gaultier,' now quite scarce, bore in several instances a close resemblance to some of the more romantic efforts of the ridiculous muse of our landscape painter, traveller, and humourist; but there are differences of kind, as well as of degree, between the renowned 'Ballads' and the ludicrous rhymes. Mr. Lear's "Advertisement" reminds us that thirty years have passed since Mr. M'Lean published the 'First Book of Nonsense' in 1846; the other extremity of this span of a generation of man brings the 'Laughable Lyrics' to our table, and shows the undiminished freshness of the author's mind.

Still, we have found in 'Laughable Lyrics' nothing equal to 'The Owl and the Pussy Cat,' in 'More Nonsense,' its immediate forerunner, and we must confess to caring comparatively little for the "Nonsense Botany" which is again illustrated in the volume now published, and, in fact, the only example of these quaint travesties of science which has remained in our memory is a very queer variety of broom, called *Nasty-creature cravolupia*, in which the rods were accompanied by bow-backed caterpillars in great numbers. The "Botany" of the new volume is rather trite and, as art-critics say, mannered. One cannot enjoy *Smalltooth-cornia domestica*, and we fail to see the fun of *Bassia palatalensis*, so many of the familiar bottles issuing from floral calyces; yet *Queeriflora babyoides*, a big Sun-flower, bearing six jolly babies in a ring, is really first-rate in its way. Mr. Lear's new "Nonsense Alphabet" is much more acceptable, for he fully carries out the true idea of the exquisite and supreme simplicity required to be illustrated by an "Alphabet." One idea, and one only, occurs, as it should do, in these instances, of which, to our minds, the best is that of "G," a gun, with a queer bit of humour in the descriptive verses:—

G was papa's new Gun;
He put it in a box;
And then he went and bought a bun,
And walked about the Docks.

It would be difficult to give to a *non-sequitur* greater charms than these.

It is to the "Nonsense Songs" that the reader will turn with most curiosity, and he will find here as much fun as the whole season is likely to offer

him in any other volume. There are men and women who have heard of the Quangle Wangle Quee; but few of us have a notion of the hat of that remarkable creature, of which, as yet, no living specimen has been brought to Europe. Mr. Lear's information respecting this hat, and his further studies of the habitat and habits of the beast, will therefore be welcome to drawing-room naturalists. We learn that the Quangle live in tops of Crumpley trees, and the formidable hat with which he is furnished, — whether as a means of defence or concealment has not yet been ascertained, — is described thus:—

But his face you could not see,
On account of his Beaver Hat,
For his Hat was a hundred and two feet wide,
With ribbons and bibbons on every side,
And bells, and buttons, and loops, and lace,
So that nobody ever could see the face
Of the Quangle Wangle Quee.

How the Quangle found it dull in the Crumpley tree, and how Mr. and Mrs. Canary visited him, and solicited leave to build a nest on the "lovely Hat," and how numerous other creatures made similar petitions, including the Fivible Fowl with "a corkscrew leg," the "Pobble who has no toes," the Dong, and other wonderful animals, are related here. Other legends enlighten us about the toeless Pobble, and there is a terrific narrative of the doings of the Dong, which, it seems, has a luminous nose. This phenomenon fell in love with a creature whose fellows

— came in a sieve, they did,
Landing at eve near the Zemuery Fidd,
Where the Oblong Oysters grow,
And the rocks are smooth and grey,
And all the woods and the valleys rang
With the Chorus they daily and nightly sang,—
"Far and few, far and few,
Are the lands where the Jumbies live;
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a sieve."

Here is the end of the "Dong with a Luminous Nose":—

Lonely and wild, all night he goes,—
The Dong with a luminous Nose!
And all who watch at the midnight hour,
From Hall or Terrace, or lofty Tower,
Cry, as they trace the Meteor bright,
Moving along through the dreary night,—
"This is the hour when forth he goes,
The Dong with a luminous Nose!
Yonder—over the plain he goes!
He goes!
He goes!
The Dong with a luminous Nose!"

No subjects have been so frequently the objects of modern satire as the sham chivalry and the falsely sentimental verse; the 'Bon Gaultier Ballads' fairly laughed the versifiers out of court, and Mr. Lear has given them their quietus; they had long been moribund.

The Witches' Frolic, and The Bagman's Dog. By Thomas Ingoldsbay. Illustrated by Jane E. Cook. (Bentley & Son).—The illustrations are cleverly designed silhouettes on black grounds, very carefully and neatly drawn, and finished with exceptional care. Altogether this is a pretty and readable volume, attractive in appearance, and nicely printed on good paper.

Village Songs. By Mrs. Hawtreay. Illustrated. (Warne & Co.).—Mrs. Hawtreay writes pretty and simple, but somewhat weak and sentimental, although not sickly, verses. Her subjects are healthy children, babies, "woodland" rambles, the miseries of the poor, the coming of Spring, and those kindred themes which have been so often celebrated in modern verse. The woodcuts which accompany the verse are pretty enough to be worthy of their places.

The Crown of Life. Words by M. and W. Illuminated by A. Robertson. (Hardwicke & Bogue).—Mr. Robertson's illuminations, figures, and borders are creditable, if he is a beginner, to that gentleman, but they are rather trivial. Who "M. and W." may be, we do not know. Their verses are not unworthy of Messrs. Moody and Sankey, e.g.:—

I knew a phase of life all dimm'd with tears,
Of jarring discords in the mind and fears,
When faith in clouds of mental mist was veiled,
And saddened doubts the weary soul assailed.
For mid the varied creeds of mortal man
Perplex'd I strove the truthful one to scan;
But each seemed with discrepancy and doubt
Obscure, and strangely compassed round about.

It must require at least two poets to produce verses like these.

Men of Mark: a Gallery of Contemporary Portraits. With Biographical Notices by T. Cooper. (Sampson Low & Co.).—This is a complete volume of a popular serial, containing photographic portraits of many well-known persons, portraits which have been, in the greater number at least, very severely "touched up," so that a preternatural smoothness prevails in the faces. This practice is to be the more regretted, because the likenesses, notwithstanding so much meddling that the larger portion of the creases have been smoothed out, are generally instinct with character; for examples see those of Messrs. Millais, John Bright, J. A. Froude, Capt. Burton. The book is likely to be popular, and it is, on the whole, well worth having.

Aunt Louisa's Choice Present, and Aunt Louisa's London Favourite (Warne & Co.) are children's books, simple texts "decorated" (?) with garish, not to say coarse and crude "illustrations printed in colours"; it is not too much to say that the printer possesses no eye for colour who produced things of this tawdry sort. Good, harmonious and attractive colouring is quite within the range of cheap production, and it is really a pity that Messrs. Warne & Co., whose books are otherwise excellently adapted for their purpose, do not do better than they have done in these instances.

THE EXCAVATIONS AT OLYMPIA.

A GERMAN Correspondent writes:—"From a report made by Prof. Adler, at the meeting of the Berlin Archaeological Society, it appears that the excavations at Olympia are being vigorously pursued. Since the 5th of October a hundred and twenty men have been busily engaged widening the trenches which lead from the area of the Temple of Zeus to the Alpheus and Cladeus, and constructing a horse railway. As soon as this work is finished, it is intended to dig, in addition to the three existing trenches, a fourth, which will extend from the rear of the temple straight westwards to the valley of the Cladeus. This trench will touch a Byzantine church, which is said to date from the fifth century, and the ruins of which it is desired to uncover, as a suspicion is entertained that the church stands upon the remains of an ancient temple, perhaps the Heraeum. At least the dimensions of the ruins agree with the measurements which are preserved, in an imperfect state, to be sure, in Pausanias. Meanwhile further progress has been made in the way of clearing the *Terrain* before the east front of the Temple of Zeus. No doubt is any longer entertained that the ancient line of wall upon which the excavators came last year at this spot, in fact marks the eastern limits of the Altis. This wall must have been approached at an acute angle by the Procession road which leads from the east front of the Temple. The course of this latter can be traced by the bases of the statues and votive offerings which stood along the road; and where the road and the wall meet, one of the entrance gates of the Altis wall, it is hoped, will be found.

"The other discoveries have been happily numerous. Many painted terra-cotta gargoyles, with beautiful lions' heads, such as hitherto had been found only on the west front of the Temple, are turning up on the east. Among the marble fragments of the building is the first Ionic column (5.52 metres high) found. Hitherto, only Doric and Late Corinthian capitals had been disinterred. Besides numerous copper coins and inscriptions, parts of the groups of the East Pediment have been met with; great fragments of limbs of horses, that are turned towards the left, and therefore must have belonged to the Quadriga of the spectator's right. Some of these are worked in very high relief, in fact, almost detached; others are flatter. The latter are still attached to the piece of the wall of the pediment on which they rested."

Fine-Art Gossip.

THE statue of Faraday—the commission for which was placed in the hands of the late Mr. Foley, R.A., and far advanced by him in the full-sized model at the time of his decease—has, by the instructions of the committee, been completed in marble (not bronze as erroneously stated in a letter to the *Times*), and is now awaiting arrangements for erection.

THE Fitzwilliam Museum Syndicate recommend the expenditure of a sum not exceeding 1,000*l.* in purchasing engravings at two important sales now approaching at Leipzig and Paris—those of the Liphart and Firmin-Didot collections. The works of early masters of the German and Low Country schools are most in request. It is expected that the University Library Syndicate will recommend the transference to the Fitzwilliam of the albums of engravings in the University Library, thus greatly enhancing the wealth of the latter institution in this respect. The Syndicate recommends the purchase of a fine collection of ancient glass formed by General di Cesnola during his excavations in Cyprus, lately referred to in these columns as one of the most interesting in the world. It includes many lovely works of art, and some extremely curious inscriptions, makers' names, and mottoes; the price proposed is 600*l.*

THE French journals report the appointment of a Commission, under the presidency of M. Longpérier, to prepare a collection of curiosities for the Exposition Rétrospective, 1878. The objects are to be of all kinds, from all countries, and dating from pre-historic times to 1800. The collection, which promises to be of large proportions, is to be deposited in the galleries of the Trocadéro.

AN Exhibition of Original Sketches and Drawings made in Sinai and the Holy Land has been formed at Messrs. Agnew & Sons', Waterloo Place. Mr. H. A. Harper is the artist. The private view took place yesterday (Friday); the gallery will be opened to the public on Monday next, and will doubtless attract all those who are interested in the subject.

THE Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge send us a small packet of illuminated cards, comprising prettily printed floral emblems, with pious texts, mottoes, and verses. The best are those printed with black grounds, and styled "Good Wishes for all Seasons."

A CORRESPONDENT adds information respecting Barker's "Woodman," mentioned in our account of pictures at Raby Castle:—"In a recent impression of the *Athenæum* appeared a letter by Mr. J. Deffett Francis on the subject of the Raby "Woodman," in which the writer states that the painter of the picture, Thomas Barker, of Bath, was a Welshman. Will you permit me to correct this error? Thomas Barker was born near Pontypool, in Monmouthshire (1769). His father was an Englishman, and a native of Newark-on-Trent. Mr. Francis is correct in saying that the "Woodman" which Bartolozzi engraved was not the "Woodman" now in the South Kensington Museum. The former is the celebrated one, and the original some years since passed into the possession of a gentleman named Power, of Dublin, and I believe the picture is still in Ireland."

WE have received from Messrs. Mansel & Co. a copy of their "Calendaria Botanica Ridicula" for 1877; the wit, such as it is, of which is due to the author of "A Book of Nonsense,"—at least Mr. Lear first produced jokes of this kind, but never such bad ones as those of the "Calendaria." Far better than the jokes are the illuminations, gilding, and text of the very effective folding sheet before us, in which each month has a page of flowers of quaint devising, richly set in gold grounds.

MUSIC

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY. Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Sir Michael Costa.—Forty-fifth Season.—FRIDAY NEXT, November 18th, at 7.30, Handel's ISRAEL IN EGYPT. Principal Vocalists: Madame Nover, Miss Ellen Horne, Miss Julia Elton; Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. Lewis Thomas, Mr. Hilton. Organist, Mr. Willing.—Tickets 3*s.*, 5*s.*, and 10*s.* 6*d.*—Subscription for Ten Concerts, 5*l.* 5*s.*, 5*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, and 5*l.* 7*s.*, including admission tickets for the Handel Festival in June, 1877.—Office (6, Exeter Hall) open from Ten till five o'clock. Season Prospectus forwarded upon application.

On Just Intonation in Song and in Speech; a Paper read before the Aberdeen Philosophical Society, 7th March, 1876. By James Walker, President, Aberdeen Musical Association. With an Appendix, Explanatory and Illustrative. (Printed for private circulation.)

THIS is not a scientific work. If the first words of the title misled the reader to anticipate any investigation or discussion of the nature and realization of just intonation in singing, or any foundation of such an entirely new subject as just intonation in speaking (whatever that may mean), the sight of the dainty cover, the red edges, the thick toned paper, and æsthetic "get-up" of the work would dispel the illusion before he had read a word. And after he had begun to read, the difficulty he would find in attaching anything like a strict meaning to the grandly or delicately rounded (and sometimes unrounded) phrases and sentences, although many of the latter are made conspicuous by being formed into paragraphs of two or three lines in length, would convince him that he was rather in "wonderland" than on the firm territory of knowledge. In short, this is an æsthetic work, and no doubt, when the original paper was read, and probably illustrated with old instruments, old ditties, and charts of old music, and appeals to patriotic musical feeling introduced without stint, it proved in the highest degree attractive, and a delighted audience would be delighted still more to possess it in a form so well adapted for lying on the drawing-room table.

But surely we are past this stage now in the study of music. We do not need to trumpet forth all its enchantments. We take these for granted. But we do want to know the rationale of their production. On such points the present work unfortunately gives no information. The knowledge which it alludes to, rather than adduces, is mostly second-hand, and the positive information of any kind is difficult to find. The following are some of the best specimens in the book. They are numbered for ease of reference:—

(1.) "The nicest attention, from the earliest stage, must be given to the accuracy of intonation, or tune in singing, by which is meant the faculty of preserving through all the varieties of a composition, the exact distance sounds bear relatively to one another, without varying from the pitch which the tone or keynote ordains to the rest of the Scale." (P. 33.)

(2.) "The divisions of perfect tune have no reference to instruments, but must be considered according to their mathematical denominations, and are not to be measured by any other standard." (*Ibid.*)

(3.) "One of the first objects, then, is to establish in the mind, through the perceptions of the Ear, a clear, definite, exact notion of each note or interval which the voice is required to hit." (*Ibid.*)

(4.) "Modern scientific experiment has proved that the element of beauty, which the mind discovers and the heart accepts, in the order of the tones of some lovely melody, is based upon an

absolutely true relation, numerically and mathematically, which these tones bear to each other, and that if you disturb, displace, or alter their relations in the slightest degree, the charm is broken and the spell is lifted." (P. 44.)

(5.) "Modern investigation has also demonstrated the close relationship between sound and motion; the laws which seem to govern the waves of sound, and the consonant and dissonant intervals; proving that the perfect consonance of certain intervals is due to the absence of beats, the imperfect consonance of others to their existence." (Pp. 44-5.)

(6.) "Allow a few accurate voices to sing some sustained chords in two, three, or four parts, unaccompanied by any Instrument. Then let the same chords be sung, while they are also played on a pianoforte or organ, the impure, dull, inferior character of the concord of the accompanying instrument will be at once felt against the clear, brilliant tone and sweet resonance of the vocal chords." (Pp. 46-7.)

(7.) "Instead of learning to create these special, pure, and true tones on Instrument or Voice, much of modern teaching consists in leading the voice to rely on the tones being first produced or heard on these instruments, and then being followed or imitated by the Voice. This habit is not only most injurious to the Ear in its sense of truth of intonation, but affords an explanation why so few voices are now able to swim out into the Sea of Song, if unsupported by the modern mechanism of fixed tones" (P. 40)

There may be, perhaps, as much more in the book that might be cited, but these will suffice as specimens. No injustice is done to these passages by isolation. Each sentence forms a separate paragraph in the original, leading out of nowhere into nowhere. The more vulnerable passages are passed over. It is not necessary to refer to the language; let us endeavour to suppose that the above phrases contain clear thoughts, clearly expressed. Will it be believed, on reading (1), that there is not even a hint in the book beyond what may be derived from (2), (3), and (4) as to how the knowledge of the exact intervals between any note and the keynote may be ascertained? And will it be believed that the difficulty of fixing and determining these intervals does not in the slightest degree depend upon the primary numerical relations which determine the Octave, Fifth, major Third, and sub-minor (or harmonic) Seventh, which have been known for centuries, but upon the use of these relations as determined by modulation and progression of parts, of which there is not a syllable in the book? Thus the author cites (second-hand, through Mr. Sedley Taylor) an old paper of mine, read before the Royal Society in 1864, to the effect that seventy-two notes to the Octave would be required on instruments with fixed tones (p. 47), but does not hint that it was only the necessities and extent of modulation which led to that number, and that in a subsequent paper (in 1874, reproduced in substance in my Appendix to Helmholtz) seventy-two was, on a more accurate examination of the nature of modulation, altered to 117, although sub-minor Sevenths were designedly neglected. That is to say, the very nucleus of the difficulty in producing just intonation, or such pitches as give the best consonances, is simply ignored.

Again in (4) reference is made only to melody, and what the "absolutely true relation [in the singular,] numerically and mathematically," which successive notes bear to each other in a melody, may be, has certainly

not yet been discovered, as the relations on which, for example, the melodic Greek Scale, as laid down by Euclid, and the melodic Arabic Scales as laid down by Abdul Kadir, (see my translation of Helmholtz), are totally different from those which must be pursued by musicians who would produce an harmonic scale, that is, one which is intended to furnish agreeable consonances. Nor, again, is the assertion correct, that, "if you disturb, displace, or alter their relations in the slightest degree, the charm is broken, and the spell is lifted," because Prof. W. Preyer, of Jena ('*Ueber die Grenzen der Tonwahrnehmung*,' 1876), has shown, by numerous trustworthy experiments, that the very best and most practised ears will, in all intervals, except the Octave and Fifth, allow an error of the tenth part of an equal semitone, at the most favourable parts of the great musical scale, to pass unnoticed. It is only in harmonies that such small errors become sensible. Similarly (5) is a very imperfect statement of the real case.

How the author managed in (6) to hear voices sing a just chord while a tempered chord was played, it is difficult to understand. But I have several times heard a choir, which sang in perfect tune as long as it was unaccompanied, driven into distracting dissonances by the accompaniment of a piano, itself drowned in the roll of the voices. The contrast is very easily obtained by two harmoniums, one tuned to seven just major chords, and the other tuned as usual. In (7) the assertion is correct when applied to equally tempered instruments, but quite incorrect when applied to justly intoned instruments, like the harmonium exhibited by Mr. Colin Brown at the Glasgow meeting of the British Association. It is, in fact, only by such instruments that the nature of just intonation can be made evident, and the means of hearing it with certainty and accuracy can be put into the hands of learners. The tuning of such instruments can now be effected mechanically, with almost mathematical certainty, by means of beats and differential tones, so that the imperfect estimation of the ear can be altogether eliminated.

Of course with many of the general remarks in the book, so far as they are intelligible, all will agree. Although I have myself for many years paid great attention to language, and to its public utterance, I must own to not being able to comprehend the author's chapter on language in the slightest degree. To show the real nature of the book, it is only necessary to observe that no key whatever is given to the fac-similes of old music in Plates iv. v. and vi., which, therefore, are only calculated to make the ladies who turn over the pages, at a dinner-party, exclaim, "How strange!" The "Early Scottish Pipe, Lute, and Viol Tunes" are certainly not in their oldest forms (Plates viii. to x.). The "Eastern Melodies" (Plate xi.) are actually harmonized! The bass accompanies the "Arabian Air" in Tenth's! The "Chinese" has a bass pedal throughout. And the "Hindoo Airs" are variously harmonized. All these would be simply horrors to the people themselves, and the modern musical notes and setting fail altogether to represent the very peculiar melodic modalities of the music. The author may shift the responsibility for all this on to

Dr. Crotch, from whom he says (p. 94) that these Oriental examples were taken. But he is certainly responsible for the selection. Why the musical illustrations in Plates xii. to xxviii. were added, it is difficult to guess, because nothing is said about them. Perhaps they were meant to give the drawing-room ladies something intelligible to play on their much abused piano, and hence to make them believe that they understood the drift of the book.

It would be an unthankful task to go into further details. Perhaps, after all, I should have treated the work as the drawing-room table ornament which it resembles, instead of judging it as it professes to be, that is, as a Paper, by the President of a Musical Association, addressed to a Philosophical Society.

ALEXANDER J. ELLIS.

THE DEATH OF TAMBURINI.

THE last of the four incomparable artists, who for so many years at the King's Theatre, afterward known as Her Majesty's Theatre, maintained the supremacy of the pure Italian school of vocalization, and who were equally distinguished for their histrionic genius, is no more. Antonio Tamburini, the survivor of the famed quartet,—Grisi, Rubini, Lablache, and Tamburini,—died at Nice on the 8th inst. He was born in the episcopal city of Faenza (Legation of Ravenna in the Papal States), on the 28th of March, 1800. His father was a bandmaster, who instructed his son to play the French horn; but, as he was weak, the studies of the young Antonio were turned towards the science of music and singing. At twelve years of age, he sang in the choruses of the operas given during the fair at Faenza, and had the advantage of hearing the two great tenors of the period, David and Donzelli; the soprano, Signora Mombelli; and the contralto, Signora Pisaroni; and the grand style of such singers was not lost on the youth Tamburini, whose voice, of course, broke at the usual age, and, from having been an alto, he became a baritone-bass. At eighteen he ran away from home to make his *début* at a small town, Cento, and he made his first impression on the lyric stage in Generali's opera, '*La Contessa di Col-Erbo*.' From the small theatres he was soon emancipated, and at Bologna his success was decided in the '*Cenerentola*' and '*Italiana in Algeri*' of Rossini. He sang in succession at Naples, Florence, Leghorn, and Turin; in 1822, he made his *début* at the Scala, in Milan. At Venice, on his way to Trieste, Rossini heard him. His next theatre was in Rome, where he sang with Madame De Meric-Lalande and David in '*Mosé in Egitto*' of Rossini. The Impresario Barbaja engaged Tamburini for four years to sing in Naples, Milan, and Vienna. On the 7th of October, 1832, he made his first appearance at the Italian Opera-house in Paris as Dandini, in '*La Cenerentola*,' and from that year to the period of his retirement, Tamburini alternated between Paris and London. In both capitals his popularity was unbounded. Laporte, who thought that he could dispense with the services of Tamburini, in order to engage secondary artists on cheaper terms, found out his grievous mistake in trying to dispense with the *vicille garde* in 1841, when such an outbreak took place within the walls of Her Majesty's Theatre as will not easily be forgotten. The Tamburini row ended in Laporte being compelled to declare in public that he would re-engage the favourite baritone, who reappeared triumphantly. Lumley's attempt to repeat the unsuccessful tactics of his partner, in 1846 proved a failure more disastrous than that of Laporte. Grisi, Mario, Tamburini, and Madame Persiani, with the band and chorus, with few exceptions, went over to Covent Garden in 1847. Tamburini, although he was advancing in age, remained, to the last night of his singing in London, an immense favourite with the operatic public, and no wonder. He belonged to an order of singers whose training was long and severe before they ventured to appear in London or

Paris. The vocalists of the Italian lyric stage were masters of the scales; they possessed precision without formality, brilliancy without uncertainty, accent, accuracy, intelligence, and expression. Where are these combined qualities to be found in the actual race of aspirants of all nations who are still novices when they fret their hour here? Without dwelling on the unrivalled qualities of Grisi, Rubini, and Jupiter Lablache, reference can solely be made, to point out the decay of artists, to the list of characters in Tamburini's *répertoire*. Where is there a Don Giovanni and a Count Almaviva ('*Nozze di Figaro*') to be found like the deceased baritone, who included in his tragic parts Pharo, in '*Mosé in Egitto*' ('*Zora*' here), Guglielmo Tell, Azzur ('*Semiramide*'), Ashton ('*Lucia*'), Duke of Ferrara (both in '*Lucrezia Borgia*' and '*Parisina*'), Riccardo ('*Puritani*'), Fernando ('*Gazza Ladra*'), St. Bris ('*Huguenots*'), in his comic characters, Figaro ('*Il Barbiere*'), Dr. Malatesta ('*Don Pasquale*'), Dandini ('*Cenerentola*'), Guglielmo ('*Così fan Tutti*'), Geronimo and Count Robinson ('*Matrimonio Segreto*'), &c. The list can be lengthened; but these operas will recall to opera-goers the versatility of Tamburini, who could impart individuality to each of his assumptions. His execution was fluent and facile; he had both power and pathos as a tragedian, and as a comic actor he was second only to Lablache and Ronconi. On or off the stage, Tamburini was essentially a gentleman; he had the polished and refined manners of the old school. He resided for many years in the Rue Tronchet, in Paris, and had also a villa at Sèvres; but latterly his health caused him to seek the mild climate of Nice. His wife, Madame Tamburini, was once a *prima donna*; one daughter married the charming tenor, Signor Gardoni. Although Tamburini realized a fortune, he had a heavy affliction, in a son, who speculated on the Paris Stock Exchange, and who committed suicide. Tamburini was a model artist, always the first to attend and the last to leave rehearsals. He was most careful and conscientious in the exercise of his vocation—a truly honourable and estimable man, as well as a consummate artist.

THE LATE HENRY PHILLIPS.

THE death, at Dalston, on the 8th inst., of the once famous British baritone-bass, Henry Phillips, who for more than forty years occupied such a prominent position in the world of English opera, oratorio, and concert, requires more than a mere passing notice. He was a Jew by birth, if not by persuasion; his mother, once a singer at Vauxhall Gardens, was of German extraction; his father left him destitute at an early age. Henry Phillips was born in Bristol on the 13th of August, 1801; his parents at that period were acting in that town and in Bath. The son was scantily educated, but at nine years of age it was discovered he had a voice. He was called the '*singing Roscius*,' and his first appearance on any stage was at Harrogate, when he sang the '*Bay of Biscay*' in character, with the set scene of a storm. His success decided his future career. He accompanied his father and mother during their theatrical tours in the North, singing at concerts. Taken to London, the youthful singer found a friend and teacher in the late Sir George Smart. His *début* in London was at the Haymarket Theatre, as the Robber's Boy in '*The Iron Chest*,' the Sir Edward Mortimer being Charles Young. The next season he was with his father at Drury Lane, and sang in the music of '*Macbeth*,' receiving lessons from Mr. Leoni Lee, and Mr. Price, chorus-master of the theatre. He then made the acquaintance of Mr. John Barnett, the still living composer of the '*Mountain Sylph*.' With Edmund Kean, in Maturin's tragedy of '*Bertram*,' Henry Phillips played as a page in the tragedy. When his voice broke, at sixteen, he essayed the career of an artist, being fond of sketching, and Ackerman employed him to colour engravings; but he contrived to practise on a pianoforte, and wishing to imitate three bass singers of that time, George Smith, Hignman, and

Tinney, whose voices went down to D and double C, he tried to force his organ to the low notes of Handel's songs, but nature would not have it, and made him a pure baritone. Lord Byron noticed his talent in the Green Room of Drury Lane, as also did Dr. Kitchener, and the late Mr. Arnold, of the Lyceum, engaged him as a chorus-singer. At that theatre he was articulated for two years to Broadhurst, the tenor, who introduced his pupil to the dinners of the City Companies. His voice, from being a light baritone, got gradually down, and he acquired the compass of a baritone-bass. From the Lyceum he went to Covent Garden, appearing as a Dutchman in Bishop's opera, 'The Land of Java,' and singing in the still popular glee, 'Mynheer Van Dunk.' Fortunately he fell into the hands of Sir George Smart, who, surprised that Phillips could sing the tenor, soprano, and contralto songs as well as the bass ones in the 'Messiah,' became his firm supporter. His *début* in oratorio was eminently successful, and he sang at the Lenten sacred concerts at Drury Lane and Covent Garden. He appeared as Artabanus in Dr. Arne's 'Artaxerxes,' with Miss Paton (Lady W. Lennox, and Mrs. Wood afterwards), Madame Vestris, and Braham. This led to his re-engagement at the Lyceum as principal bass when Hawes was the musical director, who, with Arnold, the proprietor, had the courage to produce Weber's 'Der Freischütz' for the first time in this country. The rôle of Caspar, being regarded as an acting part, was given to a tragedian; but Phillips, who was Rollo, also sang the music of Caspar. On the first night of the opera (July 20th, 1824), 'Der Freischütz' was a failure, but eventually a dance which Phillips introduced at the end of each verse in Caspar's Drinking Song saved the work, and this dance was imitated from a war-dance of American Indians. From that time the name of Henry Phillips was associated with opera and oratorio. He for years had the first place at the Lyceum, Covent Garden, and Drury Lane; he was engaged for every provincial festival; he was the leading bass at the Ancient and Philharmonic Concerts; in short, no programme of any musical entertainment, private or public, was considered complete without his being engaged. He created the chief characters in his line in all the operas, native or foreign, for many years, and he distinguished himself in music of every school, Italian, German, French, and English. His reputation spread in every direction; no 'Messiah,' no 'Israel in Egypt,' no 'Creation,' without Phillips. He revived the songs of Purcell; composers of note, such as Spohr, Mendelssohn, and Neukomm, wrote specially for him; he also composed for himself, and gave lectures on Hebrew melodies. His farewell concert was given in St. James's Hall, on the 25th of February, 1863, at which he had the aid of every artist and composer of note then in the metropolis. In 1864, he published his 'Musical and Personal Recollections during Half a Century,' in two volumes. He sang afterwards in the provinces occasionally, and resided for some years at Edgbaston, near Birmingham, but latterly he lived at Dalston. He was present at the inauguration of Balfe's statue in Drury Lane Theatre, September 25th, 1874, for he had sustained the bass parts in all the operas produced by that composer, as well as in those of the late Edward Loder, Mr. John Barnett, Sir Julius Benedict, Mr. Hatton, the late Wallace, Mr. G. Macfarren, &c.; but he was not fortunate in his own opera, 'The Harvest Queen,' brought out on April 22nd, 1838, at Drury Lane. He was a very remarkable artist, the legitimate successor of Bartleman. His voice was of the richest and most sympathetic quality, and in the ballad style, accompanying himself on the pianoforte, he was unrivalled; he was truly great in his own walk, and if his class as a singer in the lyric drama and in oratorio was not the first, he was, at all events, the first of his class. He was the connecting link between the singers of his generation and those of the past, and if his tendency towards the music of his period was too pronounced, no artist has ever done more to popularize Handel, Haydn, and other ancient masters.

CONCERTS.

THE performance of Handel's 'Acis and Galatea,' on the 11th inst., at the Crystal Palace under the direction of Mr. Manns, was unexceptionable as regards the orchestra, and commendable on the part of the chorists. The solos were sustained by Miss C. Penna, Galatea; Mr. Shakespeare, Acis; Mr. H. Guy, Damon; and Signor Foli, Polyphemus; the bass being encoined in "Ruddier than the Cherry." A revival of this splendid serenata on the lyric stage, if adequately cast, would be a certain success.

There is evidently a run on Schumann and Schubert at the Popular Concerts, in St. James's Hall. On the 11th the Trio in B flat, Op. 99, by Schubert, and on the 13th the Trio in E flat, Op. 100, for piano, violin, and violoncello, were given. On the Saturday, Schumann's Etudes Symphoniques, in C sharp minor, Op. 13, for piano, and on Monday his String Quartet, in a minor, Op. 41, No. 1, were executed. The executants on the 11th were Miss Zimmermann, MM. Straus, Ries, Zerbini, and Piatti; and on the 13th Mr. C. Halle, Madame Norman-Néruda, Ries, Zerbini, and Piatti. Mendelssohn's String Quartet, in E flat, Op. 44, No. 3, and Haydn's String Quartet, in F major, Op. 50, No. 5, were played—the former work on Saturday, and the latter on Monday. Herr Straus introduced the Romance, for violin, with pianoforte accompaniment (Sir J. Benedict), by Herr Max Bruch, for his solo on the 11th; and Mr. Halle chose Beethoven's Sonata, in F, Op. 10, No. 2. Mr. Cummings sang, on the 11th, in place of Mr. Sims Reeves, Handel's "Waft her, Angels," and a French Romance; and Miss S. Löwe gave songs by Beethoven and Rubinstein on the 13th.

At the Royal Albert Hall, on the 16th inst., Mendelssohn's oratorio 'St. Paul' was performed by Mr. W. Carter's choir; the announced singers were Madame Nouver, Miss Enriquez, Messrs. Miles Bennett, L. Winter, Signori Fabrin and Foli.

At the third of Herr Franke's Chamber Music Concerts, on the 14th, in the Langham Hall, Herr Brahms's Piano and String Quintet, in F minor, Op. 34, was executed by MM. Oscar Beringer, Franke, Van Praag, Holländer, and Daubert. A duet for piano and violin, 'Deutsche Reigen,' by Herr F. Kiel, was played by MM. O. Beringer and Franke. Fräulein Redeker was the vocalist.

Musical Gossip.

A NEW overture, by Herr Raff, will be introduced in the programme of the concert at the Crystal Palace this (Saturday) afternoon, and Fräulein Mehlig will play the pianoforte part of Henselt's Concerto.

THE forty-fifth season of the Sacred Harmonic Society will be commenced in Exeter Hall on the 24th inst. The oratorio will be 'Israel in Egypt,' conducted by Sir Michael Costa.

MENDLSOHN'S 'Hymn of Praise' and Rossini's 'Stabat Mater' will be performed by the Royal Albert Choral Society on the 23rd inst., under Mr. Barnby's direction.

THE Covent Garden Promenade Concerts will be terminated next Monday, with a benefit for the Directors, Messrs. Gatti. The Walküre selection was heard almost in solemn silence. It is amusing to find the supporters of Herr Wagner's system making the admission that the music of the 'Nibelungen' is of no value without the scenic adjuncts. Do the soprano and tenor airs and the Spinning-Wheel Chorus in the 'Flying Dutchman' need stage effects to render them attractive? The simple fact is, that miscellaneous audiences expect melody or tune to fix their attention, and if that is absent the yawn is inevitable.

THE Lyceum season of operas in English is drawing to a close. The final novelty, Mr. Cowen's setting of the 'Lady of Lyons,' under the title of 'Pauline,' will be produced next Wednesday. The 'Flying Dutchman' will be repeated at a morning performance this day (the 18th inst.).

M. EDMUND ANDRADE commenced a course of six lectures on the Galin-Paris-Clevé Method of Teaching Music, at the Society of Arts, on the 14th inst. The system is that of figured notation (in place of the Sol-fa).

It is definitely arranged that the season of Her Majesty's Opera will be continued in 1877 at Drury Lane Theatre, there being no chance of the completion of the Opera House on the Thames Embankment for that year. Mr. Mapleson will not begin before the end of April, a month later than the opening of the Royal Italian Opera season at Covent Garden.

SIR MICHAEL COSTA returned from his tour in Italy and Germany on the 14th inst., after an inspection of the principal Italian and German opera-houses.

MILLE BORG-MANO (daughter of the contralto of Her Majesty's Theatre) has achieved a decided success at her *début* in Paris at the Italian Opera-house; her voice is a powerful soprano, of great compass, her method is of the best school, and her acting is intelligent and dramatic. Besides these artistic attributes, her stage presence is quite in her favour. The new contralto, Mdle. Parisi, was unable to appear, and was replaced, at a short notice, by Mdle. Alma Reggiani. The new tenor, Señor Aramburo, of Her Majesty's Opera, was also well received, particularly when he launched a C sharp from the chest, but his style lacks finish and refinement. The two baritones, Signor G. De Reské and Pandolfini, please the Parisians. Still Signor Verdi's 'Forza del Destino,' in which the new artists sang, has given place to 'Aida,' as the music of the former work does not generally compensate for the disagreeableness of the confused libretto. There are some fine numbers in the score; but, on the whole, it is unequal. 'Aida' is thus cast: the title-part by Madame Teresina Singer; Aménis, by Madame Gueymard; Signor Carpi, Radamès; Signor Nannetti, Ramfis; Signor Pandolfini, Amosaro; and Signor De Reské, the King.

MADAME ADELINA PATTI (La Marquise de Caux) has left Paris to fulfil her engagement in Russia. It is stated by the *Ménestrel* that the Czar has definitively come to the resolution to withdraw the subvention to the Italian Opera in St. Petersburg and Moscow after the present season. Madame Nilsson has been singing in concerts at Amsterdam and at the Hague. M. Faure's reception at Bordeaux, at his concert, on the 10th inst., was most enthusiastic: he was serenaded before his departure for Bayonne.

M. GOUNOD is composing the music for a libretto by MM. Poirson and L. Gallet, called 'Cinq Mars,' for the Paris Opéra Comique, the director of which, M. Carvalho, has also commissioned the successful composer of 'Jeanne, Jeannette, et Jeanneton,' noticed in the *Athenæum*, to set a book by MM. A. Sylvestre and Hennequin.

M. ERNEST REYER, as was expected, has been elected, at the Paris Académie des Beaux Arts, by a majority of twenty out of thirty-two voters, for the chair vacated by the late Félicien David. M. E. Boulanger was second.

A MARKED sensation was produced at M. Pasdeloup's Sunday Popular Concerts, by the introduction of the second act of Berlioz's 'Troyens à Carthage.' It is an orchestral piece, called 'Chasse Royale et Orage,' which was suppressed after the first representation of the opera at the Lyrique, as the audience did not like to have an entire act appropriated to the band. What would they say to the entire 'Nibelungen' of four operas being almost exclusively devoted to the band in a hollow, whilst the singers on the stage were gesticulating and singing notes almost entirely without a tune for the ear to catch? Mozart's 'Jupiter' Symphony, M. Reyer's overture, 'Sigurd,' an *entracte* by Herr Taubert, and the 'Réverie' by Schumann, were included in the scheme, but no demonstration took place against the two German composers.

THE death of M. Batiste, the composer and

organist of St.-Eustache, has taken place in Paris. He was a pupil of Halévy, and rose to be Professor of Harmony in the Conservatoire. He was uncle to M. Léo Délibes, the composer.

DRAMA

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. B. Chatterton. Every Evening, at 7, 'THAT BEAUTIFUL BOY,' at 7.45, 'RICHARD the THIRD.' Mr. Barry Sullivan, Messrs. H. Sigelair, J. F. Cathcart, C. Vandenberg, H. Russell, F. J. H. H. Clifford, Douglas, Evans, G. E. Ireland, Percy Bell, C. H. Fenton, James Johnston, R. Dolman, J. B. Johnson, Master Gratton; Mrs. Hermann Vegin, Madame Fanny Huddart, Misses Edith Stuart and Gratton. 'THE STORM FLEND.'—Prices from 6d. to 4l. 4s. Doors open at 6.30, commence at 7. Box-Office open from Ten till Five daily.

THE WEEK.

CRITERION.—'Hot Water,' a Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts.

HAYMARKET.—'Birds in their Little Nests Agree,' a Fanciful Conceit, in One Act. By Charles Marshall Eas.

OLYMPIC.—Revival of 'No Thoroughfare,' Drama, in a Prologue and Five Acts. By Charles Dickens and Wilkie Collins.

To the collapse of burlesque and the failure of supply in *opéra bouffe* may be attributed the constant renewal of the attempt to fit to the English stage the *répertoire* of the Variétés and the Palais Royal. The process is not unlike that of

Dropping buckets into empty wells
And drawing nothing up.

It is pursued, however, with zeal as indefatigable as though a constant supply of water rewarded the effort. 'La Boule' is, perhaps, not more difficult to deal with than the 'Procès Veauradieux,' or other pieces of the same order. It has accordingly been translated, and put upon the English stage under the title of 'Hot Water.' For once the adapter has adhered to his original. Beyond changing the scene to England, bestowing English names upon the characters, and omitting a certain portion of the dialogue, he has done little. The broad pleasantries of the French farce are preserved in the English, and look, it need scarcely be said, still broader in their new dress, and the entire male portion of a court of justice still rises to watch with eager eyes an actress, bidden to uncover her hand for the purpose of being sworn, undo the apparently interminable row of buttons which fastens a glove reaching up the arm almost to the shoulder. In saying that a piece like 'Hot Water' makes people laugh, most that can be advanced in its favour is told. There is some ingenuity in the idea and in the construction of the plot. Much of this is lost, however, by the transference of the scene to England. The mere fact that barristers are shown visiting clients at their own homes, for the sake of obtaining evidence and preparing a brief for the Divorce Court, is sufficient to cast upon the whole action the charge of being impossible. Whatever art may have to say concerning the original,—and some of the works of MM. Meilhac and Halévy display art of a kind,—with the translation it is in no way occupied. 'Hot Water' is a mere bald rendering of so much as can be preserved of an unscrupulous but whimsical production. The cast is strong. Mr. Clarke, Mr. Righton, and Mr. Wyndham are three competent actors, and Miss Fanny Josepha displays a measure of the delicacy which in French acting carries off risky situations or dialogue. The piece parted, accordingly, with little more of its mirthfulness than is necessarily lost in the process of all but literal translation. It was received with favour, and may possibly maintain its place upon the stage.

'Birds in their Little Nests Agree,' which now concludes the entertainment at the Hay-

market, is happier in idea than execution. A number of spinsters of different ages form a "nest," in which, like birds, they determine to lead quiet and peaceful lives, out of the reach of snarers, cats, and other disturbers and persecutors. Not too peaceful, however, proves existence under such conditions, and when two cats, in the shape of human beings, "flutter the doves," the alarm is transitory, and is followed by rejoicing, upon the part at least of the two birds singled out for prey. This trifle was agreeably played by Misses Harris, Irwin, and Dietz, Mr. Gordon and Mr. Kyrle.

The play founded by Messrs. Charles Dickens and Wilkie Collins upon their Christmas story of 'No Thoroughfare,' and first produced, in 1867, at the Adelphi, has been revived at the Olympic. It has lost little during the years that have passed since its first appearance, and remains a fair specimen of a rather gloomy kind of melo-drama. Mr. Neville resumes his original character of *George Vendale*; Mr. W. J. Hill gives a humorous presentation of *Joey Ladle*; Mr. Arthur Stirling, reappearing after a long retirement, succeeds Mr. Fechter as *Oberreizer*; and Miss Carlisle replaces Miss Carlotta Leclercq as *Marquise*. Miss Brennan, Mr. Flockton, and Mr. Fisher are also included in the cast.

Dramatic Gossip.

THE performance at the Queen's Theatre came to an unexpected termination on Saturday last.

A BURLESQUE, by Mr. Farnie, entitled 'The Very Latest Edition of Robinson Crusoe,' has been produced at the Folly Theatre. The travesty is devoid of humour, and the performance is noteworthy only for the extravagance of one or two actors who apparently mistake a theatre for a circus.

MADAME CHAUMONT will this night reappear at the Opéra Comique, after an absence from London of some years. She will play in 'Toto chez Tata' and 'Madame attend Monsieur,' and will sing her well-remembered songs.

'LE VOYAGE DANS LA LUNE' has been revived at the Alhambra.

'LES BOHÉMIENS DE PARIS,' a drama in five acts and eight tableaux, by MM. Dennery and Grangé, has been revived at the Porte Saint-Martin, with M. Dumaine in the principal character.

'LE BÉARNAIS,' an historical drama by M. Xavier de Montépin, has been given at the Théâtre du Château d'Eau. It follows the fortunes of Henri through various stages, until it closes with his triumphal entry into Paris. Through all dangers his protecting angel has been an illegitimate daughter, fruit of one of his innumerable intrigues. It is to be feared that the lesson here is not the most strictly commendable.

MISCELLANEA

Interpolation before the Sanctus.—In the *Athenæum* of October 28th, p. 560, col. 2, it is mentioned that the rubric *Clerke*, before the *Sanctus*, at the end of the Prefaces in the Order for the Communion, throws some light upon a doubtful rubric in the 1549 Prayer Book. In Aless' translation of the Book of 1549, embodied in Bucer's 'Censura,' "Chorus" is similarly interpolated at this place. 'Buceri Scripta Anglicana' (Basil, 1577), p. 426.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. W. O.—A. J. C.—E. R.—E. O.—A. H.—H. V.—T. F. D. C.—J. B. H.—H. G. L.—R. H. S. E.—C. B.—F. J. H.—F. R. S.—G. T. T.—received.

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